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Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk July 28, 2013 NORTH & WEST KENT EDITION Issue no 566

Crackdown on foreign gangs using our roads to fuel crime

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

GANGS of Eastern European criminals using Kent's road network to try and avoid being detected by police have been targeted in a major drive to stamp out organised crime.

It formed part of a week-long campaign by forces nationwide aimed at tracking down foreign criminals involved in serious crime including human trafficking, money laundering and fraud.

Kent's force played a major part – catching a Romanian man wanted by Berkshire police for kidnap.

Officers also arrested a man for drink-driving and two Polish men were pulled over and found to be driving a car deemed in such a dangerous condition it was immediately seized.

Another car seized found the Romanian driver had no insurance.

The nationwide drive, called Operation Trivium, saw British police team up with officers from Romania, Lithuania and Poland.

But for Kent Police it was business as usual, explained Inspector Paul Sellwood, of the force's roads policing unit.

"Being located where we are, this is the kind of thing we deal with every day," he said.

"We've got two of the big corridors – the M2/A2 and M20/A20 – and the port. It means 70-80 per cent of vehicle movements come through Kent.

"That's why we were particularly keen to get involved in this nationwide operation. The additional intelligence from other forces really helped.

"It's fed into a central system which makes it more effective and quick."

The aim of the operation was to crack down on criminal networks attempting

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JAGGER FLOATS BY

FLYING HIGH: Georgia May Jagger at British Airway's Manston launch – **SEE INSIDE**

DEVELOPMENT

Localism: Is it working here?

THE Coalition claimed its Localism Act would see power shift from Whitehall to local communities.

But amid a flurry of controversial decisions, it seems Eric Pickles is still giving the nod to schemes despite widespread local opposition. Special report inside. **PAGE 4**

HERITAGE

Protecting our signal boxes

SOME of the best loved railway buildings in the county will be protected from demolition after being granted Grade II-listed status this week.

The eight signal boxes from across the county demonstrate examples of rare design, which faced the end due to the railway's modernisation. **PAGE 10**

SURVEY

Sharp drop in our orchards

A FASCINATING new survey reveals the make-up of the county in a way which will help shape future development for years to come.

Inside we take a special look at the findings which reveal orchards in decline and just how much of Kent has been developed. **PAGE 22**

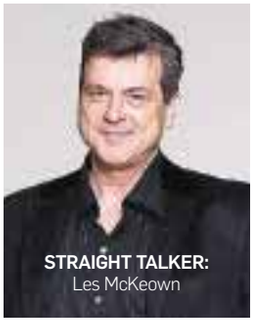


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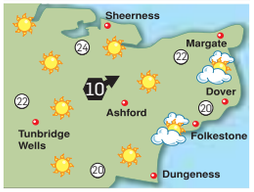
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Weather



TODAY: Dry with sunny periods to start. Showers later. Warm. Max temp 21-24C (70-75F). **TONIGHT:** Showers and clear spells. Min temp 14-17C (57-63F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	03.33	6.3	15.48	6.5
Margate	04.51	4.6	16.52	4.8
St Mary's	09.23	5.1	21.45	5.1

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 22C	Min 14C
Tuesday	Max 22C	Min 14C
Wednesday	Max 24C	Min 14C
Thursday	Max 26C	Min 14C
Friday	Max 24C	Min 13C
Saturday	Max 23C	Min 13C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

CONTACTS
Publisher: Simon Irwin
Email simon.irwin@archant.co.uk
Editor: Chris Britcher
Email chris.britcher@archant.co.uk
Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, TN25 6SS
Editorial: News: 01303 817100
Leisure: 01303 817022
Sport: 01303 817177
Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
Advertising: Jobs/Notices: 01303 817056
Business: 01303 817056
Email appointments@kosmedia.co.uk
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Published in Kent and printed by Archant Print, division of Archant Community Media Limited (Co Reg No 19300). Registered Office: Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE

CRIME

International networking puts police on the road to tackling organised crime

Continued from front page

to avoid detection on Kent's roads.

Using intelligence and Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR), foreign-registered cars and UK cars driven by Eastern European nationals believed to be linked to crime or acting suspiciously were tracked down and pulled over.

Officers from Romania, Lithuania and Poland, who came over to the UK for the crackdown, were also able to carry out real-time checks to establish if the occupants were wanted by police in their home countries.

This information could then be fed through to regional forces.

"There's a lot of crime such as theft from vehicles, burglary, right up to the more serious crimes," said Inspector Sellwood. "We're trying to disrupt the criminal network."

National lead for roads policing, Chief Constable Suzette Davenport, said many of the criminals are organised and use the road network to travel around to try and avoid being caught by police.

"Their activity has a damaging impact on communities and businesses that are targeted," she said.

"We want to prevent the public from the misery they cause and build on the intelligence we already have.

"These criminal gangs must use our roads to carry out their illegal activity, so by targeting them in this way we are aiming to develop a robust system to tackle the issue in the future."

Is public perception part of the problem?

As the main point of entry to the UK, Kent is on the front line when it comes to Eastern Europeans coming in which can cause ill-feeling, particularly with the perception it leads to foreign criminals operating in our county.

The reality is, of course, that crime happens at the hands of all nationalities and this latest crack down is one of many carried out by the force, in which they target different groups and crimes.

We contacted Migrant Helpline, which has its headquarters in Dover, to discuss the issues surrounding Eastern Europeans to see what the organisation thought about this specific operation, but they were unavailable for comment. However, speaking to us last month on the thorny topic of immigration, chief executive Robert McCrea, explained the benefits of cultural cohesion and what we gain being the gateway to England.

"Intelligent, ambitious, skilled, hard-working migrants come here to work and contribute to society," he said.

"Some politicians work with the media to get headlines out about migrants taking our houses, taking our jobs.

"Migrants come here to work; they contribute through National Insurance and support themselves."

He said there was good cultural cohesion in the county, particularly in Canterbury where it is entrenched in the culture of the city.

Dover and Shepway have also improved over the last decade.

He stressed that in parts of Dover, where there are often misconceptions about issues with migrants, he said there are already homegrown problems.

"If you took migrants out of the community you'd still have problems," he said.

"Families are relocated from London to live in seaside towns which can cause problems in itself and that has nothing to do with migrants."

COMING UP IN THE NEXT MONTH

Pure Weddings
August 4

Are you or someone you know getting ready for their big day? Then look no further than our special Pure Weddings supplement.





It's results time
August 18

Thousands of students will be receiving their A-level results – but what are the options, pass or fail?

Homes & Gardens
August 25

Is it time to freshen up your living environment? Then look no further than our essential guide to sprucing up your home.



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COMMENTS FROM KENT...

Mayor of Medway **Josie Iles**: "Medway has always had close links with the royal family, thanks to the area's long maritime history, and I hope that once things settle the new family will be able to find time to visit."

Dartford council leader **Jeremy Kite**: "If the new prince lives as long as the Queen he could be on the throne as we enter the 22nd century which says something about the role the monarchy plays in the stability of our country."

David Monk, leader of Shepway council: "We offer a warm welcome into the world to our latest royal prince and our best wishes to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge."

Mayor of Ashford, **David Smith**: "This extremely welcome news has lifted spirits throughout the country and shown how strongly we feel about our royal family."

Dover council leader **Paul Watkins**: "This is a happy and historic occasion, and will help to reinforce the relationship between the royal family and the younger generation, and the nation."

Leader of Canterbury council **John Gilbey**: "Cricket, cycling, rugby, athletics, golf, tennis and what seems to be a positive turnaround in our economic performance, and now the royal birth safely achieved, must mean that 2013 will be a year as memorable as 2012."

Gareth Johnson, MP for Dartford, said: "It dawned on me after the birth that people of my generation and older will not witness the new Prince take the throne, we will have passed on. It will be the younger generations that will witness the House of Windsor continue into the next century."

Tracey Crouch, member for Chatham and Aylesford, said: "I was desperate for Kate to hold on for a few more hours so that I would share my own birthday with the future king. Alas it was not to be, but I welcome his arrival into this wonderful but sometimes crazy world, a part of it he will one day rule."

Hugh Robertson, member for Faversham and Mid-Kent, said: "It is another great moment for the royal family following on from the Royal Wedding and the Diamond Jubilee, and rounds off an extraordinary July for the country."

Swale MP **Gordon Henderson**: "I very much hope that the hype fizzles out quickly and our future king is allowed to be brought up in private, without the constant media attention demanded by a 24-hour news agenda."

North Thanet MP **Roger Gale** said: "At the end of the day every new parent and every grandparent wants just one thing - a happy, healthy baby. That is also what even the most die-hard republican must want for the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and for Prince Charles."

Greg Clark, MP for Tunbridge Wells, said: "Warmest congratulation to William and Kate and all involved in the safe delivery of their son. This is wonderful news for the whole nation."

ROYAL BIRTH

Picture: PHIL MORLEY/ARCHANT



Royal baby's links to county run deep as Sophie tells of delight

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT blood will course through the veins of the new royal baby, Prince George of Cambridge.

Champagne corks were popping across the county this week after the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge revealed their first born to the world – the third in line to the throne.

And the county can feel more proud than most, with plenty of ancestral connections to the Middleton family and proud mum Catherine.

Researchers William Addams Reitwiesner and Michael J Wood compiled Kate's family tree prior to her wedding to Prince William in 2011, and it revealed strong Kent roots.

Her great-great-grandfather was Frederick John Glassborow, born in Nelson Terrace, Haggerstone, Middlesex, on February 22, 1859.

A shipping manager, he died at Homeleigh, Beltinge, near Herne Bay, on December 21, 1932.

Another great-great-great-grandparent was brick maker John Goldsmith, who was born in Maidstone in 1827 and died tragically from internal strangulation in Islington in June 1888.

With details becoming slightly more vague, Kate had a great-great-great-great-grandfather, again called John Goldsmith, who was born in Kent in 1783. He was still in the building trade and was a carpenter. He died around 1851.

Meanwhile, Kent's very own royal Sophie, Countess of Wessex, wife of Prince Edward, the youngest son of the Queen, said she was "ridiculously happy" for William and Catherine.

Speaking to reporters after the birth, the countess, who grew up in Brenchley near Tunbridge Wells, said: "I'm so excited for them both.

"Everybody's absolutely thrilled as you can imagine. I never expected to feel quite this happy but I've had a big smile on my face ever since."

Birth of the princes

THE Sun's former royal correspondent, Harry Arnold, remembers well the time Princes William and Harry were born.

Mr Arnold, from Aldington, said by the time the second son was born, he was so close to Prince Charles, people were joking Harry was named after him.

He told this newspaper: "I was outside the hospital when William was born.

"When Prince Charles emerged to say William had been born, I jumped over the barrier and was the first to shake his hand to congratulate him, which rather amazed him.

"I was not worried about being arrested; the atmosphere was too nice for anyone to be punished for something like that. It went very well."

Charles visits twice

PROUD grandfather Prince Charles will be making two special visits to Kent on Monday.

He will attend the Whitstable Oyster Festival on Monday, in addition to his previously announced trip to Chatham.

The Prince of Wales, along with his wife, the Duchess of Cornwall, will meet local fishermen and local business owners at the harbour.

In Chatham, he will visit the Prince's Trust Centre to meet unemployed young people, as well as the Historic Dockyard Chatham, where he has been appointed patron of the trust which oversees the site.



Order your commemorative magazine on royal birth... now

TO CELEBRATE the birth of Prince George, a new magazine celebrating the occasion is available to pre-order now.

The Royal Baby is published by Archant – publisher of this newspaper – and will be dispatched from Monday, July 29.

The Royal Baby is packed with glorious and historic images of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge as well as other British royals who will play a key role in the life of the newest addition to this famous family.

Pre-order The Royal Baby today for just £9.99 at http://bit.ly/13insrw



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RENGERATION

Failures of localism highlighted

Passed to give communities a voice in the fight to stop controversial projects going ahead, the

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

IT WAS to spark a shift of power from central government to communities, but two years after the celebrated Localism Bill was made law, many argue local people remain without a voice.

Controversy has reigned, particularly in recent months, with communities secretary Eric Pickles nodding through developments which people in Kent have tried strenuously to stop.

Instead, the very power promised to them by the Coalition has seemingly been stripped away, leaving them at the mercy of politicians and developers.

Consultations into major projects are increasingly being viewed by cynics as merely a box-ticking exercise to pave the way for what many consider to be a fait accompli.

As a consequence, the very foundations of both local and central government is being shaken.

Can we, as a population, still feel confident our voice is going to be heard?

Examples of where the apparent will of the people was overlooked litter the county.

There is the planned expansion of Lydd Airport – supported by Shepway District Council – and the contentious development of Oaken Wood, near Maidstone, which would mean the loss of ancient woodland, a plan supported by Kent County Council.

Both cases were "called in" by the Government and following public inquiries, Mr Pickles gave the green light.

Those in support of the Localism Act will argue its raison d'etre was never to allow the voice of the people to out trump the view of the elected – but the question remains whether our voice is being heard at all.

So just what happened to so-called localism; the Act which should devolve decision-making powers away from Westminster and into the hands of local people?

"Local people have no real voice," said Tom French, managing partner of chartered surveyors BTF Partnership in Challock, near Ashford.

"The Government goes through the box-ticking exercise of a consultation, but if it sees the development as a greater good, something that will help the economy, it's then difficult for local people to challenge these big developments.

"If you take the lower Thames crossing, people will tick one of the boxes.

"But ultimately it's not going to be a group of residents who says where it goes. It's a government decision based on what impact it will have on the economy. A public consultation is very much a process it must go through."

Mr French, who gave evidence at the recent public inquiry into dualling of the A21 near Tunbridge Wells – a case of where public opinion and constant political pressure has finally being brought to bear – on behalf of a landowner, added that engineering restraints dictate where a bridge or tunnel would be; something a layman would find hard to dispute.

One of the key elements of the localism agenda is developers must consult communities, giving them a chance to comment while there is still genuine scope to make changes to proposals.

But if consultations are just a box-ticking exercise, are we fighting a losing battle?

A spokeswoman for the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) defended the Localism Act, explaining to KoS that in the recent case of the Dover Western Heights and Farthingloe Valley development – which will see 521 houses built as well as amenities within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – Mr Pickles used "localism".

He refused to step in when Protect Kent, the county's branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, called for a public inquiry after Dover District Council approved the plans.

"It's rare he gets involved in local cases like this," said the spokeswoman.

"If anything, this highlights localism by not stepping in and instead leaving it for the local authority to decide."

But what about the community?

Realistically, as long as it is being decided on a local level, through the district or borough council, then localism is surely being achieved.

It could, ultimately, come down to semantics.

It could also prove dangerous to consistently ignore the voice of local authorities in favour of communities.

Localism might, in that case, become a tool for Nimbyism, halting development and leading to a severe lack of housing for a growing population.

Striking the balance is important, but remembering the Coalition's promise to local people that they can help shape where they live should not be forgotten.

Jamie Weir, from Protect Kent, said the Government launched localism with much fanfare, but he stressed that communities are only listened to when they say 'yes' to development.

"When they rally against a development, the decision is taken far above their heads by central government, making a mockery of the concept of localism," he said.

"Eric Pickles is very unlikely to understand the needs and desires of communities he has never spoken with, so I don't think it's appropriate for him to force centralised decision-making on the public in these places."

Lib Dem parliamentary candidate for Maidstone, Jasper Gerard, who has been active in the campaign to protect Oaken Wood, said there needed to be greater clarity.

"For instance; we have had confirmation from the DCLG that it is up to each council to set its own house-building targets," he said.

"But the Conservative-run Maidstone Borough Council keeps trying to invoke other statements from government saying ministers are forcing the council to plaster our area with up to 14,800 houses.

"I am convinced this is just spin and am reassured by a letter written to me by Nick Clegg [deputy prime minister] which makes clear communities do have the power to shape their own future.

"I hope more councils start to test this, in the courts if necessary. They need to remember who they represent – the people. They now have the power, so they should use it."



STRIDING FORWARDS: Communities secretary Eric Pickles has given the green light on a number of contentious plans in in the county

Earlier this year, Medway Council was dealt a major blow after a government planning inspector threw out plans to redevelop a former military site – plans which have cost the taxpayer some £27 million.

The ambitious proposal to develop the land at Lodge Hill had been the focus of two decades of work and formed a key part of Medway Council's core strategy for the area. But the planning inspectorate deemed the strategy unsound.

Charity RSPB had opposed the scheme due to the 70 nightingales discovered at the site and government body Natural England subsequently declared it a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

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by Pickles' readiness to agree

2011 Localism Act is now seen by some cynics as just a tick-box before government approval

Key decisions recently called in – and approved – by Eric Pickles



Arlington House, Margate

There was huge public opposition to the building of a new Tesco supermarket at the foot of the seafront block of flats.

After a public inquiry and claims it would harm the town centre, the Government said yes.



Oaken Wood, Maidstone

Hermitage Quarry's argument it needed to destroy 33 acres of ancient woodland to mine ragstone enraged conservationists who demanded Eric Pickles step in.

He did, but still gave it the go-ahead.



Lydd Airport

Situated between Dungeness power station and a nature reserve, campaigners fought hard against plans for the extension of the runway and boost in passenger numbers.

An inquiry took place and the decision was made by self-confessed bird-watcher Pickles.

He still gave it the thumbs up.

What is the Localism Act?

The Localism Act was introduced in 2011, and aimed to devolve more decision-making powers from central government back into the hands of communities and councils.

The key parts are:

- new freedoms and flexibilities for local government
- new rights and powers for communities and individuals
- reform to make the planning system more democratic and effective
- reform to ensure decisions about housing are taken locally

Local authorities have the power to set their own strategies for the future, called the Local Plan, based on local needs, and communities have the power to get more involved in planning in their area.

A petition with 10,000 signatures, for example, can spark a debate at County Hall, shown in the historic vote for grammar provision for Sevenoaks and the recent Freedom Bus Pass extension campaign.

Leader of Medway Council, Rodney Chambers, called the planning inspector's decision "unthinkable".

He added: "This won't just cost public money – it will cost local people 5,000 much-needed new homes, and 5,000 jobs."

Local authorities often find themselves in difficult situations when tackling planning; faced with the need to build more housing while protecting the area for those who already live there.

But it's not just housing that creates controversy; Kent currently has two major worries on its hands likely to lead to a David and Goliath battle with government.

One involves the persistent focus on the north Kent coast for a Thames Estuary airport; the other a resolution to traffic hot spot the Dartford Crossing in the form of a third crossing and where it should be built.

Mr French of the BTF Partnership said the reality was if the Government wanted to build an airport it would find a way around concerns surrounding ecological issues.

When mass opposition over developments is raised, the Government can call it in for a public inquiry in which a review of evidence on both sides takes place in view of a government planning inspector before being referred to Mr Pickles for a decision.

Controversial developments, such as the expansion of Lydd Airport and Oaken Wood, were both subject to a public inquiry.

Mr French said: "The process is very complicated and expensive.

"Take a big road scheme like the A21; if there are concerns over where a route has been decided, it's difficult to object.

"Affected parties can go to the inquiry, but you've got to have fundamental reasons as to why you're objecting.

"The Government will look at the greater good and the extra incentives that it gives to the economy. It's very difficult to challenge this.

"The Highways Agency, for example, will have a barrister at all times, they will have their experts, they'll have an engineer for risk assessment – they'll have every single requirement needed.

"If you get a chance to object to their proposals, the first thing they will do is put you down.

"They'll question 'do you think you are better placed to be commenting on engineering?'

"Unless you have sufficient experience then it's difficult to challenge. If you're bringing in your own experts, it gets expensive.

"A person can represent themselves, but the length of public inquiries and the timetables means it's difficult to attend every day."

He admitted bodies such as the Highways Agency were under pressure to deliver while keeping costs down.

Mr French added the ecological side of things, however, was more subjective so sometimes easier to fight for communities.

However, authorities can obtain land – even if there is opposition – under a compulsory purchase order, which can be enforced on a landowner on the grounds it will benefit the public.

Mr French said: "No-one gets rich out of compulsory purchase. It puts you back in the same situation you were in before.

"You don't benefit."

Ultimately, he says, lives are blighted and any compensation can't be claimed until further down the line, when the development is built. It could end up being years.

Planning has always been, and is likely to remain, a thorny topic, one filled with complications and often with animosity.

Localism, it was hoped, would help smooth things over by allowing communities and local authorities more power to shape their districts.

But confusion reigns over who has the ultimate say.

Is it councils, with their new powers to set house building targets in the local plan, or the Government to ensure each area is providing for future generations?

And where does the voice of local people fit in?

■ What do you think? Share your view with our readers. Write to us. Send your letter to The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.





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TRAVEL

Rugby stars move like Jagger for airbus promo

From the catwalk to the runway, rocker's daughter Georgia strikes a pose for new BA service

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

TOP model Georgia May Jagger and three of world rugby's top stars added a sprinkling of glamour to British Airway's giant A380 Airbus as it continues to undergo training checks at Manston Airport.

England rugby captain Chris Robshaw, and South African Springboks Bryan Habana and Jean De Villiers, provided some brute strength in a special photo shoot to promote the aircraft.

But it was Miss Jagger – daughter of Dartford rocker Mick – who provided a touch of beauty.

The aircraft is at the Thanet airport to run through a series of checks before it enters service later this year.

It has become a familiar sight over the skies of east Kent with daily take-offs and landings.

The images were taken to mark ticket sales getting under way for the A380's service to Johannesburg from February next year.

BA says that A380 enthusiasts eager to be on the very first A380 flight to Johannesburg should note that the date for the inaugural flight is likely to be earlier and will be announced in due course.

The A380 starts regular flights to Los Angeles in September and Hong Kong in October.

The aircraft's design makes it much quieter during take-off and landing and 16 per cent more fuel efficient than a Boeing 747.

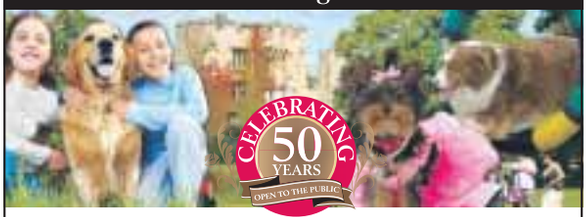


STAR: Georgia May Jagger at British Airways A380 launch at Manston Airport. Photograph taken by Bethany Clarke of Getty Images for British Airways

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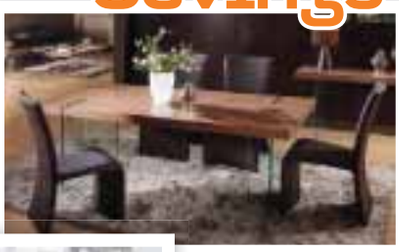
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JUSTICE

Do we demonise women criminals?

Marijke Cox looks at the difference in sentencing between the sexes

THE Moors Murders shook the British public like few other cases before or since.

Spiriting away and killing children, before hiding their bodies in the windswept, lonely Yorkshire Moors struck a very particular chord- which continues to haunt the public to this day.

Yet while the public revulsion with the killers – Ian Brady and Myra Hindley – has never wavered, it was Hindley who attracted perhaps the most ferocious response.

How could, the nation pondered, a woman carry out such heinous crimes towards children?

Because for all of society's strides to embrace equality, there are traits that are not so easily shed. Women, for example, continue to be seen as the "gentler sex" with a maternal instinct.

All of which makes trying to square that away with their involvement in sometimes appalling crimes all the more difficult, and morbidly fascinating for the media.

Female killers are rare, of course, but compare the way those committing lesser offences can often be demonised by the media and, in turn, the public alike. Karen Matthews, who was involved in her own daughter's kidnapping, or Maxine Carr, who provided Soham killer Ian Huntley with a false alibi, for example.

There remain concerns women are treated in a different way to men when it comes to the justice system. Research states female offenders are treated differently to males, and this goes right down to the more minor crimes.

In Kent, figures from the Howard League for Penal Reform suggest that for non-violent crimes, women are more likely than men to receive a short custodial sentence than community service. The Howard League told KoS that while magistrates were making good use of community sentences to help cut crime and turn women's lives around, some benches were imposing prison terms unnecessarily in some cases.

Figures show courts in Kent gave prison terms in 1.4 per cent of non-violent cases to women, twice as often as benches in criminal justice areas in some other counties – although this figure has reduced dramatically over the last decade.

Director of campaigns at the Howard League, Andrew Neilson, told this newspaper that women with no previous convictions are more likely to be sent to prison than men.

He explained: "These statistics certainly suggest there is some discrimination. It is possible that some sentencers expect women to be law-abiding, especially those with children, and so consequently are more punitive when women do offend. Given the damage imprisonment does to women and their families, we would hope such attitudes are in the minority."

He said 62 per cent of women given prison sentences of 12 months or less go on to reoffend within a year of their release, adding: "In contrast, only 33 per cent of women on community orders commit further crimes."

Mr Neilson explained: "Women are often the sole carers of children and a community sentence causes less disruption to the family.

"Community orders are also cheaper than custodial sentences and reducing the female prison population would enable more money to be spent on tackling the root causes of criminality, such as homelessness and drug addiction."

Female offenders in Kent and Medway trapped in a cycle of crime were thrown a lifeline in 2011 with the launch of a new all-female probation service for women. Called Prospects and run by Kent Probation, it provides a safe and secure environment for women to address their offending behaviour, separate from men.

An evaluation of the first 24 women on the Prospects scheme in Chatham revealed that none went on to re-offend in the 12 months since starting.

Suki Binning, Kent Probation's director of interventions, said: "The women's groups are a pioneering community-based approach just for women offenders. They empower women to change their lives and are helping to reduce re-offending. This is not only improving the lives of the women, but also of their families and victims."

Kent Probation stressed that it respected that sentencing is for courts to decide and for some women community orders may not be suitable.

Speaking to KoS when it first launched, Kent Probation's Maurice O'Reilly said women were often punished more severely than men by the criminal justice service, despite them being more likely to have been victims of domestic or sexual violence themselves, leading them to crime.

He added: "Historically, it was men who offended whereas the woman's role was to be at home. It was seen as even more unacceptable for a woman to offend."

A group of influential MPs on the Justice Select Committee this week released a report stating that prison remained "expensive and ineffective" in dealing with female offenders who do not pose a significant risk to the public.



HORROR: The late Myra Hindley served several years of her prison term at the women's jail HMP Cookham Wood in Rochester



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HERITAGE

Listed signal boxes will preserve

Network Rail and English Heritage safeguard eight historic buildings, many of which faced threat

Pictures: ENGLISH HERITAGE



ALL CHANGE: Shepherdswell signal box will be one of those saved

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

ELEVEN of the rarest and best preserved railway signal boxes in the south east have been given Grade II-listed status – among them eight from Kent.

The Department for Culture Media and Sport granted the status as a result of a joint English Heritage and Network Rail project to safeguard the nation's railway signalling heritage.

It means the buildings will be protected from developers and given special protection.

The listings come as Network Rail, which controls the national's rail infrastructure, decommissions many mechanical signal boxes to consolidate signalling into 12 regional centres, as part of a 30-year plan to modernise the system.

Heritage minister Ed Vaizey said: "Our interest in everything to do with trains and railways – and the 'golden age' of steam in particular – is one of our most endearing and enduring national preoccupations.

"Signal boxes are a big part of this, so I am very pleased to be able to list these examples."

"It is greatly to Network Rail's credit that they have worked so constructively with English Heritage to bring this project to such a successful outcome."

The eight Kent signal boxes are in Aylesford, Canterbury East, Cuxton, Grain, Maidstone West, Shepherdswell, Snodland and Wateringbury.

In addition are Eastbourne and Rye in East Sussex and Littlehampton in West Sussex.

John Minnis, senior investigator at English Heritage, said: "These are very special buildings, at one time a familiar sight on our railway system.

"This week's listings will ensure that many of these highly distinctive designs which were full of character are protected for years to come, providing a window into how railways were operated in the past."

Jerry Swift, Network Rail's head of community rail, added: "Our operating strategy would see a marked acceleration in the number of signal boxes decommissioned each year, so it is vital we have plans in place to deal with that sensitively and sustainably.

"Identifying the most significant signal boxes so that they are safeguarded for future generations is something we are all committed to.

"It is important that they have a life after the national railway network has finished with them and we are working with a number of heritage organisations to try to find suitable homes for them for the future,

"It is also great news these newly listed boxes will survive as examples of our railway's colourful past as we modernise the network for the 21st century."





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STILL ON TRACK: (Clockwise, from left) Signal boxes at Canterbury East, Wateringbury, Cuxton, Snodland, and Grain have all been granted Grade II-listed status

GRADED STATUS

From Cornwall to Kent and Sussex to North Yorkshire, a total of 26 signal boxes across England have been newly given listed status.

Dated from the 1870s to the 1920s, many still retain their original operating equipment and have become much loved local landmarks.

The box designs range from imposing structures, like the enormous Saxby & Farmer designed box at Eastbourne, to simple single-storey timber buildings like the diminutive Stevens & Sons box at Grain Crossing in Medway, the last survivor of a once numerous design.

HISTORY OF THE SIGNAL BOX

Installed from the mid-19th century onwards, signal boxes numbered around 10,000 at the peak of their use in the 1940s.

Today, fewer than 500 are still in use by Network Rail.

They were built in highly visible spots at stations or level crossings to an infinite variety of designs, sometimes with beautiful detailing and embellishment far beyond what is needed for their practical function.

They were constructed both by specialist contractors like Saxby & Farmer and individual railway companies, each developing their own distinctive style.

English Heritage has worked in close partnership with Network Rail to identify and protect a representative sample of the most significant designs, especially those within groups of historic railway buildings, capturing a snapshot of the Victorian heyday of railways for future generations.

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EVENT



Hill came alive to the sound of music

Star performances make charity event big success... and could herald return next year

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

ORGANISERS will hold talks over the coming months as to whether to return next year with the Music on the Hill fundraising event after a hugely successful return last weekend.

The event in West Malling saw performances from music stars such as Peter Andre, McFly, Jools Holland and Gareth Gates, with monies raised going to Sittingbourne children's hospice Demelza, Teens Unite Fighting Cancer and the Children's Development Trust.

And with the event blessed with good weather, ticket sales were 30 per cent up on the first show which was held two years ago.

Event director Colin Thacker said: "All the hard work over the past year was worth it.

"The feedback has been overwhelming, both directly and via social media, so we will sit down later in the year and discuss the possibility of a third event.



LIVE AND LOUD: McFly (above) joined acts such as Peter Andre and Jools Holland at the show

"I make no promises, but I do recognise the growing support for the event and if I do decide to go ahead, then I'll will be in touch with everyone that was involved this year and those that have offered their services next time.

"Ultimately, though, it is the positive impact the event has on the teenagers from Teens Unite Fighting Cancer and the children from Demelza that have had the greatest impact on me personally."

Among those attending were Vic Reeves, and former EastEnders' stars Natalie Cassidy and Shaun Wiliamson.

Maidstone fashion designer Karen Millen, who founded the Teens Unite charity, added: "The event was a fantastic opportunity to see some of the biggest names in the music industry in an intimate setting.

"We were also blessed with great weather which combined to create a fantastic atmosphere right through the weekend."

Crowd figures are still to be confirmed.



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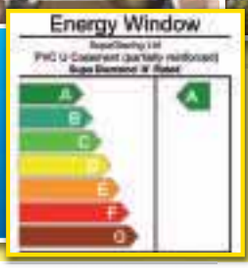
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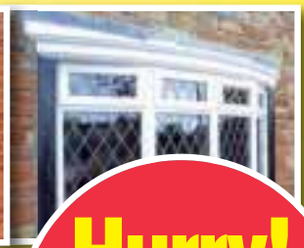


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LEISURE

Pub fails to live up to its name as decorators stump The Ashes

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

IT'S a pub so dedicated to cricket it was named after the famous Ashes series.

And with screens inside and out – giving punters the chance to soak up the sun while watching the first two Tests – you would imagine popular Maidstone pub The Ashes, located in the heart of our county town, has been packed to the rafters in recent weeks.

But it would appear not.

Cricket fans eager to catch the eagerly anticipated opening shots of the first two Tests, assuming a sports bar named after the series would, without a doubt, be showing the England versus Australia spectacle, were bowled over to find that wasn't the case.

Instead they were told refurbishment works were taking place over the two weeks of the first two games. And while the pub would be open, the TV screens would be off.

Manager James Mackley, taking a break from painting to speak to us, said they were frantically putting the finishing touches to the work so they were ready to open Monday, ahead of the start of the third Test on Thursday, August 1.



GAME CHANGER: The Ashes in Maidstone had to cancel showing the series

He explained: "We'll be back in business for that. We had no other time we could take a two week break to do this until now."

But during The Ashes?

"It's a shame we weren't able to show it. As well as redecorating we are getting new wiring for all the screens as they're becoming HD.

"There was nothing we could do really.

"The pub was open but we couldn't show the Tests.

"It's unfortunate we had to make that sacrifice, but we're trying to make it look nice in here for our customers.

"We'll definitely be open for the third Test."

But will it provide the dramatic viewing of the first, when England scraped a nail-biting win, or the resounding success and subsequent joy felt after the second, when our nation's team stormed to victory?

And will the next few weeks see the beautiful sunshine we've become accustomed to, allowing punters to take advantage of the outdoor screens?

Perhaps The Ashes missed a trick by choosing those two weeks to redecorate.

IMMIGRATION

Raid on pizza outlet

TWO men have been arrested by Home Office staff after a raid on a pizza delivery firm.

Acting on a tip-off, immigration officers visited Pimmy's Pizza in the High Street, Borough Green last Friday.

They arrested a 22-year-old Afghan man who was a failed asylum seeker and a 32-year-old Pakistani man who was working in breach of visa conditions.

The men were transferred to immigration detention pending their removal from the UK.

SAFETY

Swimming warning

POLICE have renewed warnings over the dangers of swimming in lakes and quarries around Kent.

It follows an incident in which a large group of people were found swimming in a lake in Halling on a privately owned site off the A228.

Insp Tony Dyer said: "People put themselves at risk from swimming in a very deep and cold lake."

CRIME

Teen in street attack

A MAJOR police probe is under way after a teenage boy was stopped by police in the early hours of the morning with cuts and bruises.

The 16-year-old, who was walking in Beaumont Road, Maidstone, at around 7am on July 20, said he had been assaulted in the early hours on Sutton Road, near the junction with Mangravet Avenue.



TRAVEL

Facing up to the latest threat from the skies

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

WHILE much of the county remains confident any imminent threat of a multi-billion pound hub in the Thames Estuary is set to fly into the distance – for the time being at least – many fear air travel will continue to blight their lives.

The announcement this week of plans by Gatwick Airport to build a second runway would seem to suggest the strain on the south east's aviation capacity will be resolved by expanding existing airports.

But while that will please those opposed to construction off the north Kent coast, those in the west will be less than impressed.

Tonbridge and Malling MP Sir John Stanley said he remained "totally opposed" to any Gatwick expansion, saying it would cause "intolerable noise and disruption" to his constituents.

Certainly those in west Kent are far more aware of the presence of one of the UK's busiest airports.

Sevenoaks District Council was also cautious when it came to welcoming Gatwick's proposals.

A spokesman said: "While we welcome the economic benefits Gatwick brings to the region, we have previously raised concerns about the impact of additional flights with the airport owners. Our primary concern is the potential noise and disturbance affecting our communities in the south of the Sevenoaks district.

"We have stated previously that it is too early to identify a preferred option for an additional runway before a full assessment of the economic, social and environmental impacts have been carried out.

"We will respond to the proposals when the Davies Commission publishes its interim report into all options, which we understand will be later in the year."

Fronted by economist Sir Howard Davies, former chairman of the Financial Services Authority, the Davies Commission is the independent committee set up to examine the issues over south east air capacity and hear from all those affected.

Gatwick's proposals were made to the commission, and follow similar public announcements by the likes of London Mayor Boris Johnson, who publicly stated his preference for architect Lord Foster's airport on the Isle of Grain last week.

Airport chief executive Stewart Wingate said the best solution is for Gatwick to become part of a 'constellation' with Heathrow and Stansted – a model already utilised in cities like New York, Tokyo, Paris and Moscow.

He said his privately financed runway was the "the best and most deliverable solution".

Members of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council said they are to "consider this matter" and have not formed an opinion either way.

Kent County Council has told the commission it is broadly behind the Gatwick scheme because fewer people will be affected.

The authority believes more flights will mean more business but also wants to see hub strain reduced by utilising spare capacity at Lydd and Manston airports.

The Davies Commission will produce an interim report on its findings later this year.

GATWICK'S PLANS

Option 1

Has a gap between the two runways of under 760 metres which allows one for arrivals and one for departures. But they are too close together to be used at the same time. It would support around 67-70 movements per hour with 60-66 million passengers per year by 2050.





Option 2

Has an unspecified gap of over 760m to allow arrivals on one and departures on the other in use at the same time. Capacity is about 75 movements per hour with 75-82 million passengers per year by 2050

Option 3

See the gap at over 1,035m to allow each runway to accommodate both arriving and departing aircraft at the same time. Capacity here is between 95 and 100 movements per hour or more and would equate to some 80-87 million passengers per year by 2050.



The cost

The expansion would cost between £5 billion and £9bn, much less than Heathrow's £14-18bn and the Thames Estuary plans at £50-80bn, says Gatwick, adding that both those alternatives are seeking substantial public subsidy, whereas Gatwick expects to finance expansion privately.

Air quality would remain within Euro targets.

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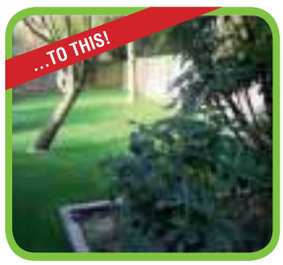














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FILM

James Bond screenwriting pair honoured by uni where they first met

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THE screenwriters of one of the most critically acclaimed James Bond movies of all time have received honorary degrees from the University of Kent.

Alumni Neal Purvis and Robert Wade first met at the university's Canterbury campus, sharing a room for the first academic term in 1980-81.

Mr Purvis went on to study film and photographic arts – after quitting his philosophy course at Canterbury to pursue his studies in London – while Mr Wade studied film theory and English at the university.

It sparked a life-long friendship which would see them become named "one of Britain's most successful screenwrititng partnerships".

After six years of writing scripts together, the pair got their big break when they penned the script to the 1991 movie Let Him Have It, based on the true life story of Derek Bentley, who was hung – and subsequently pardoned – for his role in the death of a police officer.

They then got involved in a number of Bond movies, starting with The World Is Not Enough in 1999, continuing with the most recent offering Skyfall which was released last year to worldwide acclaim.

Mr Purvis said: "We shared a room when we were first arrived at uni and just became friends from there."

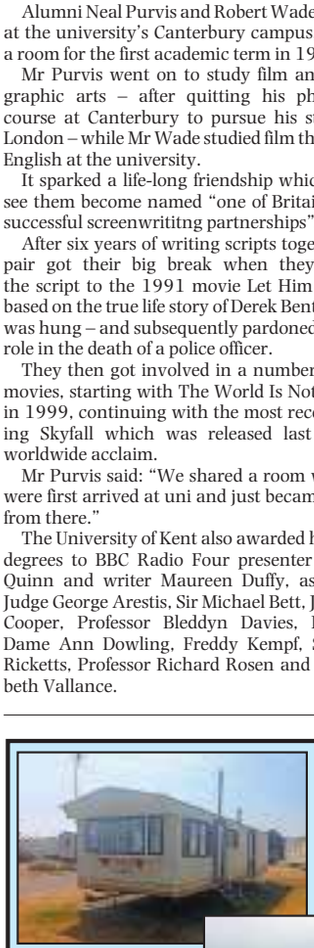
The University of Kent also awarded honorary degrees to BBC Radio Four presenter Carolyn Quinn and writer Maureen Duffy, as well as Judge George Arestis, Sir Michael Bett, Jonathan Cooper, Professor Bleddyn Davies, Professor Dame Ann Dowling, Freddy Kempf, Sir Peter Ricketts, Professor Richard Rosen and Dr Elizabeth Vallance.



PURVIS AND WADE'S LIST OF FILM CREDITS

- Let Him Have It (1991)
- Plunkett & Macleane (1999)
- The World Is Not Enough (1999)
- Die Another Day (2002)
- Johnny English (2003)
- Stoned (2005)
- Casino Royale (2006)
- Quantum of Solace (2008)
- Skyfall (2012)





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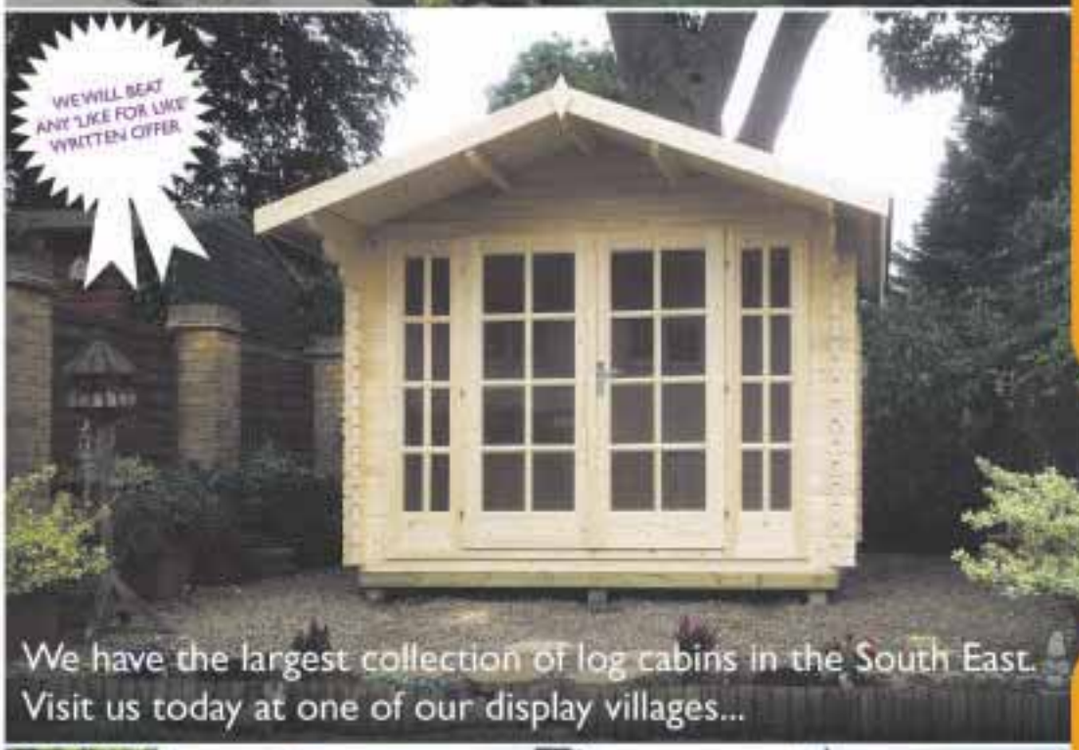
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Fans get fashion lesson from Professor Green

CHART star Professor Green met hundreds of fans at shopping complex Bluewater this week.

The rapper (right) was at the Greenhithe centre to launch his X Puma Summer Collection fashion range at the Foot Asylum store.

Fans queued up for more than an hour to see the star and he signed everything from t-shirts to trainers.



ECONOMY

£2m bowling centre strikes county town

THE nighttime economy in Maidstone will receive a much-needed boost after news a £2 million bowling centre will open in August.

The new 18-lane Hollywood Bowl will be situated at Lockmeadow Entertainment Centre.

It will replace the AMF Bowling venue on King Street which closes its doors this summer.

The centre has undergone a transformation in recent years with much of its space lying dormant after several nightclubs closed down.

But in August 2010, AMF Bowling bought out Hollywood Bowl from Mitchells & Butler merging the two companies under the banner 'The Original Bowling Company'.

Now Maidstone's entertainment hub will become one of the 44 centres that make up the largest 10-pin bowling operator in the UK.

General manager Brad Milo said: "We're delighted to be opening in Maidstone and look forward to providing entertainment for all ages. "

Many of the jobs created at the new centre will be filled by those from the closing AMF venue. However, there will be other job opportunities.

Lockmeadow will also welcome Costa Coffee as well as Harry's Kitchen restaurant for American burger-style meals.

The will also be a classic amusement arcade featuring air hockey, pool tables and games machines.

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ENVIRONMENT

Habitat survey uncovers surprising facts on Kent's evolving landscape

Did you know just 17% of county has been developed on, or that our orchards are in serious decline? These and other such findings will have an important impact on our future, as **Marijke Cox** reports

A GROUNDBREAKING new survey outlining the make-up of our county's landscape has uncovered surprising shifts in Kent's habitat.

It shows the evolution of how our land is used and exactly what percentage of the county has been used for development such as housing, and how much remains as orchards or farmland.

Some of the figures will surprise many.

For example, did you know just 17 per cent of the county has been developed?

But that figure itself has almost doubled over the last 50 years; a finding which will fuel the concerns of many about our status as the Garden of England.

And as well as revealing what's going on around us now, the Kent Habitat Survey 2012 is due to play an even more important role for future generations, providing a key marker of the impact of climate change on our environment.

It will also help with the long-term monitoring and conservation of areas rich with wildlife, and assist with planning decisions.

The survey, part of the European Interreg IVA-2 Seas-funded project Assessing Regional Changes in Habitat (ARCH), turned up some significant findings, explains William Moreno, senior biodiversity projects manager at Kent County Council.

"One of the most outstanding results is the decline in traditional orchards," he said.

"Some have changed from orchard to arable land or just grassland."

In fact, traditional orchards and hop fields have declined by a staggering 65 per cent since the 1960s.

But Dr Linda Davies, trustee of the Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre, which holds three million records of species from across Kent, said a declining trend has been seen for the last 20 years.

"It's not really that surprising as farmers progress with modern technology," she said.

"Older, traditional orchards are labour intensive. A lot of people are, however, trying to protect some orchards for wildlife and also for the historical value."

She added: "What is sad to see is some neutral species-rich grassland has declined. It's hard for farmers to justify keeping it.

"It's biologically rich, but not economic to manage and labour intensive. It's not productive for animal grazing.

"It's a sad sign of the times. There are European grants to help fund this – but despite the money, they often simply don't have the time."

Mr Moreno said Kent was thriving in terms of woodland, with the county among the most wooded counties in England.

This could, he said, be attributed to a drive in conifer plantation in the 1950s which has since shifted to richer, broadleaf woodlands.

Another surprising finding, he said, was the growth in development, increasing from 10 per cent to 17.3 per cent over the last 50 years.

In terms of the county's habitat, the built environment makes up four per cent.

Land cover refers to the whole surface of the land and its changes. Habitat is the measure of the types of land which support wildlife.

Dr Davies said the increase of development has been motoring over the last 50 years.

"I think when you look at the demands of the population, we're seeing living habits change, so there are more single person households and therefore more property; it's not just population growth.

"Kent is also the Gateway to Europe and for the last 30 years that has attracted development, which creates jobs and we need houses for those people."

Mr Moreno said the survey will be used for many things, including helping analyse the impact climate change will have on the habitat.

"We now have this information which we can combine with other people's data," he said.

"It means we can identify areas of social deprivation or the lack of green spaces, for example, and look at the connectivity of habitats.

"Our main drive is to reconnect habitats. We've got an extremely small amount of heathland and it's very fragmented. We want to reconnect that and by using our information and other places'



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SETTING THE SCENE: Findings from the survey will help the long-term monitoring of conservation

data we can plot how we can do that."

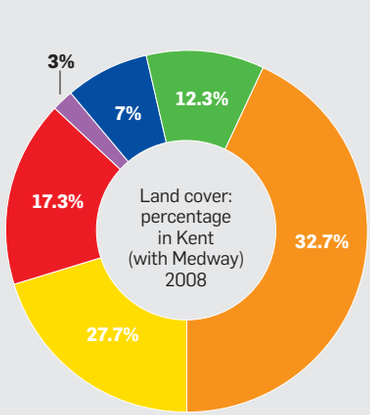
Dr Davies added: "This is an extremely important survey. Not many parts of the country have this. It's not just a document it's a database resource – it's very valuable."

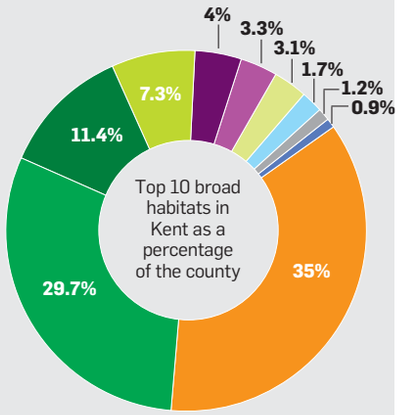
The survey will help residents, local authorities, government agencies, conservation bodies, wildlife groups, landowners, education establishments and countryside access groups to make informed decisions about land and help protect the natural environment.

David Brazier, KCC cabinet member for transport and environment, said: "This will aid long-term monitoring and conservation of important areas for wildlife, enabling residents and conservation groups and anyone with an interest in this area to make informed decisions on planning, and assisting the decision making process."

The KCC team behind ARCH recently won the prestigious British Cartographic Society Avenza Award for their work in electronic mapping.

To see the survey visit www.archnature.eu.





KEY FINDINGS

- The natural and semi-natural habitats of Kent cover 27 per cent of its surface area.
- The built environment, travel infrastructure and urban areas cover 17.3 per cent of the county.
- Arable and horticulture is the land use covering the greatest area, 35 per cent of Kent, followed by intensively managed improved grasslands at 30 per cent.
- Woodlands are the largest semi-natural habitat in Kent, covering 12 per cent of the county with 11 per cent being broadleaved, mixed or yew woodland.
- Traditional orchards occupy 0.4 per cent but comprise around 10 per cent of the traditional orchard area in England.
- Kent has a very small resource of lowland meadow.
- Heathland is the county's most rare and fragmented habitats.
- The county contains several national and internationally important habitats around the coastline including chalk cliffs and reef, and vegetated shingle.

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POLICING

Despite criticism, PCC adamant she'll appoint a youth commissioner

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

IT WAS a debacle which left a number of high-profile faces more than a little red.

But it seems the Paris Brown affair has done little to stifle Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes' hopes of appointing a youth commissioner to stand by her side.

Perhaps a little burned from the fire she was forced to fight after foul-mouthed rants from the 17-year-old emerged on Twitter, Mrs Barnes is, unsurprisingly, this time being somewhat cautious.

Despite saying in April she would reopen the application process for a new youth commissioner this summer, she told KoS this week, she is going to wait until the independent report into the saga is published – expected later this year.

After the fiasco – which saw the Sheerness teenager, who boasted on Twitter about her sex life and drinking, and alluded to racism and violence, sensationally quit her new post just 10 days after being appointed – Mrs Barnes called for an independent review, of which she is now waiting for the findings.

But ever determined, Mrs Barnes seems, for now, resolute in seeing the youth commissioner pledge through.

"I'm currently awaiting an independent report into the recruitment process," she told KoS.

"Once I have reviewed the report, and the recommendations, I will proceed with my promise to introduce a youth commissioner.

"I did commit to doing this in my first year of office, and once I make a promise I never break it."

The report will highlight what went wrong in the recruitment process of Miss Brown, who would have received a salary of £15,000 for one-year, after which a new youth crime tsar would have been appointed.

The document will also include recommendations on how to move forward.

Earlier this year, Mrs Barnes hinted the report would include scrutiny of communication protocols between Kent Police and the office of the PCC.

The PCC, despite admitting some responsibility for the saga, argued the police vetting process did not include the scrutiny of social networking for the grade of post.

"My office employed the normal procedures and we asked Paris whether there was anything we should know about and she said no; I honestly believe this is because she just didn't think about those tweets," said Mrs Barnes at the time.

Whatever happens, the PCC is certain to be trawling through any new recruit's social networking sites with a fine-tooth comb.

The question is how many people will apply for a post which saw a young girl publically humiliated and her reputation tarnished at the tender age of just 17?

MPs, including Folkestone and Hythe representative, Damian Collins, said the post should never have been created, and South Thanet's Laura Sandys described it as a "gimmick".



BIG FIASCO: Ann Barnes appointed Paris Brown

CRIME

Rogues gallery online to help catch offenders

KENT Police has launched a most wanted section on its website.

Images of the county's most wanted criminals are being shown on the site in a bid to trace people who are sought in connection with serious crimes, who may pose a threat to public safety or who are believed to be repeat offenders.

By clicking on the images, members of the public can find out more details including how to get in touch with police with any information.

The images are also being posted on the force's Flickr site.

To view Most Wanted visit either http://bit.ly/12j7J0m or http://bit.ly/1bMUo3z

DRUGS

Crackdown on drugs as police target village

POLICE this week launched a joint operation to crack down on troublemakers in Marden, following increased concerns over drug use in the area.

Officers, along with neighbourhood advisors from Golding Homes, visited a number of addresses. An 18-year-old man was arrested and later charged with possession of cannabis and will appear before court in August.

Insp Jody Gagan-Cook said: "If there are residents who are persistently causing trouble we can work together to have them evicted."



WOMAN HURT

During the show, a visitor had to be taken to hospital after a pyrotechnic thunder flash exploded in her hand.

The woman, who was staying at the site, had bought the device from a trade stand – not owned by the show.

She was taken from the site in Westenhanger, to the nearby William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.

A show spokesman said: "She did come to see us and was actually apologetic for the problems caused. We're all pleased it was nothing more serious than it actually was.

"We do not permit the selling of pyro on our trade stands and are reviewing the trader in question."

The police have said they will not be investigating the incident any further. Kent Trading Standards have declined to comment.

PROPOSAL

Brian Irving popped the question to his girlfriend from 200ft above the event – as he used a helicopter ride to propose.



Mr Irving, from Biggin Hill, proposed to partner Emma Conner.

As the helicopter lifted above the site, friends unfurled a banner which read 'Emma C. Marry me?'.

The blushing future bride said yes, and was presented with a ring as the helicopter swooped over the nearby fields.

Mr Irving said: "I'm a lot less stressed than I was leading up to the show!"

EVENT

War and Peace Revival is a blast as 100,000 flock to event's new home

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

MOVED for the first time in its 30-year history, the crowds still flocked to the War and Peace Revival Show last weekend.

Organisers estimate some 100,000 people descended on Folkestone Racecourse, as good weather swelled interest in an event which was formerly staged at Paddock Wood's Hop Farm.

More than 4,000 military vehicles travelled from across the globe to attend the five-day festival.

Organiser Rex Cadman said: "We've had an incredible time with some really encouraging feedback. We had an enormous effect on the local economy, with reports of service stations running out of fuel, hotel accommodation being difficult to find closer than 30-miles away and grocery stores having a better time than at Christmas.

"DFDS, our ferry travel partner, took nearly 600 bookings for multiple vehicles from the continent."

There was even one visitor and his son who had travelled all the way from Perth, Australia.

Mr Cadman added: "We've really enjoyed being at Folkestone Racecourse and would like to thank Shepway Council for their help and support in bringing this event to their area. And finally to the residents for making us so welcome.

"We're very much looking forward to coming back next year."

Performances, re-enactments and parades filled the days, while the evenings saw marquees transformed into dance halls filled with vintage entertainment.

Organisers opted to move from the Hop Farm in a bid to breathe new life into the event. And with the racecourse not hosting any meetings this year, while a question mark hangs over its future as a sporting arena, the 225-acre site appears to have proved a success.

It is believed the site has a five-year agreement with the venue.

Mr Cadman added: "Next year's War and Peace Revival will be on July 16-20, when we will be commemorating the centenary of the start of World War One, the 75th anniversary of the start of World War Two and the 70th anniversary of D-Day.

"It will be a big one for us."



IN NUMBERS

100,000 visitors over the five days

15,000 cooked breakfasts served

18,000 carvery meals eaten

10,000 bottles of cider bought

1,000 war veterans attending





HISTORY: Tanks, planes, military bands and much more was on show

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LITERATURE

Great Train Robbery: 50 years on, it continues to fascinate a generation

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ALMOST exactly 50 years ago, a crime took place which would forever lodge itself in the British public's psyche – the crooks involved becoming as famous as they were infamous.

The Great Train Robbery of August 8, 1963, was an audacious raid which earned it the nickname the "crime of the century".

It saw the Glasgow to London mail train hijacked and £2.6 million in unmarked cash stolen: the equivalent of stealing £41m in today's money.

The bulk of the cash was never recovered and several gang members evaded justice.

Those that were caught were sentenced to more than 300 years in jail, but their legend lived on with the public, fascinated by the characters behind the raid.

Its longevity was helped in no small part by the 1988 movie Buster, based on the life of robber Buster Edward.

But perhaps the name most notoriously connected with the robbery is that of Ronnie Biggs.

Sentenced to jail, he escaped after two years and lived a high-profile life on the run, taunting UK authorities from Brazil where there was no extradition agreement.

It was in 1989, as he lived in Rio, Brazil, that he first came into contact with Mike Gray, a Kent writer and son of a prison warden, who had found himself fascinated by the gang, and Biggs in particular. It would start a friendship which continues to this day.

"The Great Train Robbery will always be a part of British criminal history," Mr Gray explained from his home in Rainham, "due to the amount of money stolen.

"It was also nearly trouble free, apart from the attack on Jack Mills the train driver. I know Biggs deeply regrets the attack on Mr Mills.

"Biggs actually never stepped foot on the train and never touched a mailbag."

Jack Mills was the driver on that fateful day. He was hit around the head with a cosh and suffered head injuries. He died some six years later of cancer, having never fully recovered from the incident. Whether there was a direct connection between the attack and his death remains the subject of great conjecture.

Legend has it the gang had all been under strict instruction not to hurt anyone.

Mr Gray said: "Had Mr Mills not suffered, the Great Train Robbery would have been perhaps on a par with Robin Hood and Dick Turpin in UK folklore,"

After spending 36 years on the run, Biggs returned to the UK in 2001, where he was returned to jail – only to be released on compassionate grounds in 2009 as his health deteriorated.

Now 83, Biggs lives in a nursing home in Barnet, north London.

Mr Gray remains a regular visitor.

He said: "I did not want to be a prison officer like my father, but I became fascinated with Biggs.

"Eventually, I contacted him in Brazil in 1989. I wrote and telephoned him every month until his 2001 UK return, which evolved into another eight years of monthly prison visits.

"I was the Free Ronnie Biggs organiser from 1999 until 2009.

"I knew I had to get everything out and writing a book was the only way to get it all right.

"I was also one of only 10 specially invited guests to his wedding at HMP Belmarsh.

"He's a fascinating character and one who has played a major role in my life."

■ **Ronnie Biggs – The Inside Story is available as a Kindle download, via Amazon, for £5.99.**



OLD PALS ACT: Ronnie Biggs with Mike Gray

Shooting probe arrests

TWO people have been charged in connection with a shooting in Gillingham last year which left a man and woman with serious injuries.

Melissa Green, of Farnborough Avenue in South Croydon, and Steven Green, 28, of Tangmere Close in Gillingham, have both been charged with perverting the course of justice.





Towns nervously await judging panel in bid to be crowned In Bloom champions

JUDGES will be heading to Tunbridge Wells and Eynsford, near Sevenoaks, over the coming weeks as the towns looks to secure a top prize in the Royal Horticultural Society's Britain in Bloom contest.

Along with Bolnore Village in West Sussex, they are the south east's three representatives in the UK finals.

And the judges will be visiting between July 29 and August 9.

Across the UK, from tiny villages to big cities, 77 finalist communities were picked from nearly 1,000 to participate in the RHS Britain in Bloom UK finals.

Jeff Bates, an RHS Britain in Bloom judge, said: "We cannot wait to see what the south east has in store for us this year.

"It's always such a pleasure meeting In Bloom volunteers and seeing the great work they've done. They are passionate people who work tirelessly, come rain or shine, to improve their local areas.

"The only regret I have about visiting these wonderful places is that we can't stay for longer."

Britain in Bloom started in 1964. as a way of marketing the country through floral displays.

Today, each finalist will be judged on community participation, environmental responsibility and horticultural achievement.

The results will be announced at a prestigious awards ceremony on October 12, in Cleethorpes.

HIGHWAYS

Major route to port faces disruption due to vital roadworks

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

PLANS for roadworks during the busy summer months on one of the main access routes to Dover's Eastern Docks, will go on public display this week.

Work on improvements to the A2 Jubilee Way, will begin next month.

But it will mean overnight and daytime closures of the road. Disruptions will continue until the work is complete – due to be mid-October.

On Wednesday, July 31, a public exhibition will be held to find out more about the scheme and the impact the work will cause.

Highways Agency project staff will be on hand to answer questions at the event which will take place between 4pm-7pm at Maison Dieu House in Dover.

Bala Vishnubala, Highways Agency structures manager, said: "We replaced bridge joints earlier this year which had come to the end of their life and are now returning to carry out maintenance on other components to prolong the life of this important structure.

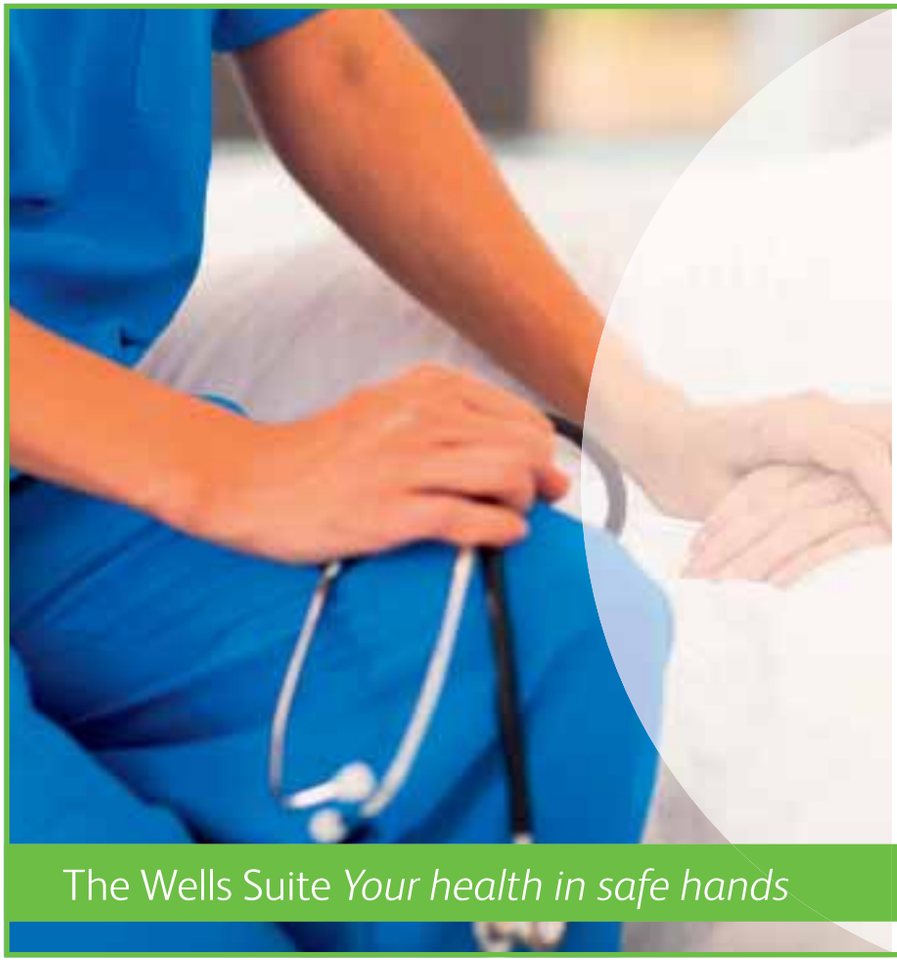
"I would encourage anyone who may be affected by the work to come along and find out more about the work, and what they can do to stay ahead of the traffic."

The first phase of the scheme will start with preparation work on Monday, August 5, and will involve overnight carriageway closures in both directions on August 12, 13, 14, 28 and 30.

The second phase will begin on Monday, September 9, involving the London-bound carriageway being closed until October 14. The coastbound carriageway will remain open to traffic between 6am and 8pm, Monday to Saturday with work being carried out overnight and on Sundays.

All overnight work will be carried out between 8pm and 6am.

During the carriageway closures, fully signed diversion routes will be in place via the A20 and A256.



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KENT **REMEMBERED**





ROOTS: Julius Brenchley sent many of his artefacts back to Maidstone where they are still on show

Family name carved in county town's psyche

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

THERE are few family names that are instantly synonymous with our county.

Thoughts instantly turn to the Neames and the famous brewery, and you could argue the ancestors of both Charles Dickens and JMW Turner will forever be linked with Kent.

But there is one surname that repeatedly stands out in the history of Maidstone... Brenchley.

Through the generations the name has a habit of popping up, their influence over the last 300 years visible today with one of the county town's most historic town centre buildings having been built by a Brenchley.



Yet it was Julius Lucius Brenchley who has perhaps one of the most fascinating and rarely heard stories.

Born in November 1816 at Kingsley House, he attended Maidstone Grammar school before studying at Cambridge University.

It is said that as a young man, Brenchley was destined to become a member of the clergy having been ordained at Maidstone's All Saints' Church.

But aged 29, Brenchley finally decided what his future career would be – that of an explorer.

During a trip around Europe with his father, he picked up the enthusiasm for travelling and never looked back.

For the next 20 years, Brenchley, who would become known as the 'gentleman explorer', travelled the world collecting artifacts, writing journals and recording both the ethnography – the study of culture – and nature he discovered.

Many of the artifacts he sent home still reside in the Brenchley wing of Maidstone museum. They include decorative shoes, weapons, tools from the tribes he encountered; even fashion accessories made from moose feet.

The naturalist travelled to every continent, excluding Antarctica, and has even had primitive snow shoes used in the Arctic Circle on display in the British Museum.

Brenchley also spent many years studying native American Indian tribes in North America.

But to the regret of scholars worldwide his journals from that expedition went missing and have never re-emerged.

Brenchley went on to make both cultural and financial contributions to Maidstone Museum, so much so that a park adjacent to the building, Brenchley Gardens, is named in his honour.

After two decades of travelling, Brenchley returned to Kent and was hailed locally as a heroic adventurer.

A number of his books have been published including A Journey to Great Salt Lake City, 1861, and Jottings During the Cruise of HMS Curacoa Among the South Sea Islands, in 1865.

Having spent much of his life travelling, he never married and died aged just 56, on February 24, 1873, during a stay in a hotel in Folkestone. He is buried in the Brenchley family vaults at All Saints' Church.

And the Brenchley name continues to live on. The imposing Kentish Bank building – which has stood empty since NatWest moved out a year ago – is set to be transformed into a pub and restaurant known as The Brenchley.

The Kentish Bank was founded in 1793, having been built by Julius' relative John Brenchley on the former site of business group Messrs Brenchley and Co.

The building is known for its former grandeur and is complete with solid oak columns, panelling and a stunning glass dome ceiling.

The Brenchley name is destined to remain with the county town, it seems, for generations to come.







OPINION

No place in history for fools

Alex Perkins, leader of the Lib Dems on Canterbury City Council, fumes over plans for the partial closure of the district's museums

WHAT on earth is the point of museums?

After all, they cost money, collect dust and hardly anyone wants to buy their souvenirs. Surely there are more important things than our heritage for local councils to spend their money on?

That, rather shockingly I'm afraid, appears to be the current thinking at Canterbury City Council.

You see, the council has come up with a plan – kept secret from opposition councillors and backbenchers until we heard about it last week – to close most of the museums in the district... most of the time.

And what is the reason for this astonishing act of vulgar philistinism?

Well, apparently Canterbury spent a staggering £65,000 last year keeping three museums open (Canterbury Heritage Museum, Whitstable Museum and Herne Bay Museum) on days when not that many people chose to visit.

I mean, good grief, £65,000? That's roughly 17 per cent of the money (£376,450.81) the city councillors paid themselves in allowances last year.

And the council's only got £6 million in it's reserves.

So why on earth should Canterbury councillors worry about 2,000 years of history? It's not like they are the custodians of a World Heritage site or anything.

And as the council's report says – they are only following other councils.

Which councils, do I hear you ask? Well it tells you in the council's report (the one where they recommend closing our museums for more than 200 days of the year).

You see, they've done a "benchmarking" exercise.

Apparently, according to the report, Sheringham Lifeboat Museum in Norfolk, Adelburgh Maritime History Museum in Suffolk and the Amberley Industrial History Museum in West Sussex, all close their doors from October through to March.

The conclusion therefore is obvious: because three small regional museums situated in rural areas close their doors for most of the year, so should the superb heritage museum in the historic city of Canterbury, a World Heritage Site, the metro-political capital of the world-wide Anglican Church and one of the most visited tourism centres in Britain and Europe.

Stunned? You shouldn't just be stunned. You should be bloody furious. I know I am. This is bean-counting of the highest degree.

You can use "benchmarking" and statistical analysis to justify almost anything.

But nothing on God's Earth can justify closing the doors to our museums, cutting off access to our history and robbing visitors and schoolchildren alike of the chance to learn about our rich cultural heritage.



Nothing on God's Earth can justify closing the doors to our museums

Canterbury was sacked by Vikings in 1012. They burnt the city and did immeasurable damage. I know this because I have many times followed with awe and delight the wonderful timeline through Canterbury's heritage museum.

A thousand years later it is in danger of being sacked again. This time by Tory councillors.

In recent times they've cancelled the Christmas lights, granted permission for a strip club and closed the council and tourism offices in our coastal towns. Don't let them take our heritage too.

You can sign a petition to keep Canterbury, Herne Bay and Whitstable Museums open at: http://tinyurl.com/savelocalmuseums.

KOS COMMENT

Congratulations to Catherine and William

REGARDLESS of your opinion on the monarchy, you cannot have failed to be caught up in the excitement and joy of the birth of the Prince of Cambridge this week.

His birth captured the imagination of so many and provided us with a truly historic moment – three generations all with a direct line to the throne.

The county has shown its support to the royal family in recent years, with street parties and celebrations for both the Queen's Jubilee last year and the happy marriage of Prince William and Kate the year before.

On behalf of everyone at Archant KOS Media, we wish the new parents well and send our congratulations and goodwill.

A legacy of 'what ifs'?

A YEAR on from the London 2012 Olympic Games and the famous legacy the organisers spoke of has been a little tricky to identify.

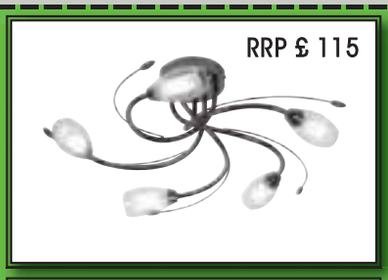
But how much of that is because of the squeeze on spending? Just imagine if the mood of 2012 had been capitalised on with positive investment.

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Archbishop's Palace in Maidstone by Jean Sheridan from Cuxton

Images of Kent

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Show glorifies war's horror

WITH reference to your recent articles and promotional advertising on the War and Peace Show, we wonder whether your readers make the connection between the War and Peace Revival show and the reality of present day warfare on the ground?

It cannot be right to glamorise the aspects war in this way, especially now we are being made aware of the consequences of war, as shown recently on BBC1's Panorama programme, Broken by Battle.

Here was shown the effects on soldiers who had left the services and were suffering from post traumatic stress disorder, plus the tragedy of more than 50 ex-soldiers who had taken their own lives this year alone, mostly because they could not cope with their military experiences.

And, of course, this number is almost incomparable to the mass killing and untold suffering that has gone on during the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, mostly of innocent victims.

A real problem is we in Britain are divorced from the reality of war – it is just visions seen on a TV screen – so we too readily accept it as a worthy cause, when the reality is so very different.

The Panorama programme showed one soldier who had been so keen to join the Army from a young age, pestering his mother to buy him an army outfit when he was just five-years-old.

Obviously he had been taken in by the excitement and glorification of war.

So we ask again, is it right to be promoting war and making it 'five days of family fun', influencing children and young people into thinking of war as an heroic cause?

These shows urgently need to be halted unless they are able to tell the audience the truth about the military and wartime conflict.

Marilyn Sansom and Geoff Meaden, Old Wives Lees

Hope thief gets comeuppance

I LIVE in Snargate Street, Dover, and our next door neighbour – who is 88-years-old – takes pride in her street and surroundings.

She clears up after the thoughtless drivers who empty their ashtrays in the gutter, picks litter after seagulls have ripped the feeble refuse bags apart, and is a credit to the older generation.

Last Monday, she was standing outside her home when she watched two or three people walking along drinking out of cans, one of whom just threw his empty can on the pavement.

She walked along, leaving her walking stick leaning up against the wall, picked up the empty can, got back to her home, and found someone had taken her walking stick.

I can only hope the thief ends up crippled.

Frank Davies, Dover

Detling left me dismayed

I WENT to the Kent County Show and I must say how disappointed I was.

We have been going to the show for years, and always loved it.

But at £20 a ticket, there was a lot missing and hardly any flower and plant sellers.

There were a lack of events and just general items to enjoy as in the past.

I for one won't bother in the future.

Lyn Baukham, by email

Children are just a number

I AM appalled the Government has no shame in using children's education to gain votes in the next General Election, by pitting 11-year-old schoolchildren against one another in nationwide tests – and then going on to humiliate them by publicly grading them all in accordance to how well they have done.

It is most unfair on those poor children who won't make the grade. They will only gain confidence if less importance was put on getting high marks and being in the top 10 percent.

Alas, our self-interested politicians do not see it that way. They think it is all about them and not the children.

R Johnston, Ightham

Pay your own way, Charles

I TRUST Prince Charles will be paying his own way and may even make a financial contribution – from his recent £16 million income from the Duchy of Cornwall – when he visits the Historic Dockyard at Chatham this week?

Marika Sherwood, Oare

It's time to go with free flow

TO EASE congestion at the Dartford Crossing and prevent the queues of five miles in either direction, which build up daily, why not simply scrap the tolls as promised?

That way the traffic would flow freely and everyone wouldn't have to waste time and fuel.

Just like they promised us when the crossing was first built.

A Jarrett, via email

Tolls are just a cash cow

MUCH has been written and will be written about the proposed third Thames crossing: but what it is not being said is the real important issue.

In 2003, when the crossing was to become free and hence all barriers should have been taken away, the then-Labour government moved the goalposts and retained the fee.

Now technology has caught up and computerised charging is now a feasible option; the first trial run of which we will soon see at the crossing.

We may have changed governments since 2003, but the rush for road charging has now started in earnest, pushed along by the conspiring and vested interest of manufactures, wishing to supply government contracts worth billions of pounds.

Terry Hudson, Whitstable

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA ...WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS

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Email: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Online: www.kentnews.co.uk

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Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include your daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

Publisher: Simon Irwin
Editor: Chris Britcher
Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS
Editorial: Telephone 01303 817100;
Fax 01303 817002;
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(T&C's below)

SUSAN seeking nice male, medium build, 35, easygoing, likes music, nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406779**

LISA blonde, blue eyes, looking for male, 42-54 for fun and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404877**

PAULINE, passionate, intelligent, discreet married lady seeks discreet special man of any age, call for more info. **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 339087**

LADY 57, away with the fairies, looking for her wizard and enchantment. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403093**

LIZ blonde blue eyed curvy female, considered attractive, tactile, sensual, enjoys music, entertaining, nice people, seeking well educated professional 50-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402773**

JO 29 tall slim female who loves soaps, animals, shopping, being a mum and am looking for 40's male with GSOH who will appreciate a tactile, loving female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402765**

52YR old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389891**

DISCREET kind man sought by married lady, must be discreet and reliable as am l. ACA. **Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box 355785**

SLIM N/S female, 54, working, reliable, easy going, likes nature, animals, seeks nice male companion, 50-64 for country/seaside walks and meals out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405745**

SLIM tall, elegant, feminine, N/S, solvent lady, young 50's, likes travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, Military/professional gent of high calibre. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405707**

JACQUELINE 79 widow, easy going, good listener, not slim or neurotic, OHAC, Sevenoaks, lonely would like gentleman's company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405533**

ATTRACTIVE female, 53, N/S, 5ft 8ins, looking for similar male, 50-55 who loves countryside, animals and is easygoing. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405421**

SUSIE young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389027**

AMANDA 44 blonde, blue eyed, very leggy, fun to be with, honest and caring seeking kind, considerate honest gent 74-79 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405315**

SUE 65, slim, animal lover, 5ft, blonde, likes socialising, meals out, theatre, countryside, happy go lucky, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405767**

CAROLINE 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067**

59YR old Kent lady, bubbly, large build, dog lover, easy-going, GSOH, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403071**

JAYNE 44 bored, underappreciated pretty blue eyed intelligent lady seeking fun and interesting professional in similar situation to me for discreet fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403011**

NICKY 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774**

LISA 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, nice personality, trustworthy, kind, likes cinema, nights in, walks, music, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404751**

CLAIRE looking for adventurous male to live life to the max and enjoy adult fun times with. Go on give me a call. Any age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402993**

GILL 41, shy, lonely single country loving female with no ties, OHAC WLTM n/s genuine, confident male companion for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402799**

AMANDA 36yr old single female, blue eyes, curvy, really pretty with lovely smile, loves music, nights out, WLTM loving male for dates and hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402787**

DOG lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Tunbridge Wells area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417**

COUNTRY loving outgoing female, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, genuine, caring, intelligent, seeks honourable, smart, professional male, 68-75 to share laughter and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392899**

SINGLE mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking soul mate, preferably with car. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751**

60YR old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523**

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REBECCA kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273**

DIVORCED female, 66, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403275**

21YR old slim figured female, no ties, looking for male 30-45yrs for non committed relationship, discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402761**

CHRIS petite attractive brunette, enjoys social drinks, meals out, theatre, seeks hardworking professional male looking for adult attention too. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402759**

5FT female, brown hair, 39, single mum, seeks caring, dedicated guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397915**

MALE 48, 5ft 10ins, medium build, likes gardening, cinema, reading, WLTM lady. Thanet area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404295**

LYN happy, young looking 72yr old, seeking interesting man, 65 plus to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403101**

GEORGINA widow, WLTM gent, 60-80 with GSOH for days out, friendship, companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067**

SHIRLEY 32 attractive nurse, enjoys good food/wine, keeping fit, looking good, searching for non committed relations with mature well-dressed man. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402779**

FEMALE seeks Prince Charming, 20-30 to sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392891**

ANNA very lonely divorced single mum with lots of love to give seeks similar caring male who also wants to find the right person, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403481**

LISA 39yr old tall slim blonde with GSOH and a wicked sense of humour, employed, OHAC, looking for similar male who enjoys life as much as I do. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403391**

47YR old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287**

DELILAH 49, likes animals, blonde, blue eyes, seeking older gent, late 70's who is kind and willing to care about me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403769**

LISA 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421**

LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521**

JAN 54, petite, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394382**

JACQUELINE 82, widow, car driver, not slim, ugly or neurotic, seeks interesting, caring gent, 70 plus for talk and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403659**

BEV very attractive lady who loves cosy nights in, seeks caring man who can put the spring back in my step and twinkle back in my eye, call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403353**

MIRANDA early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843**

MICHELLE petite fun female, outgoing, enjoys holiday abroad, OHAC and pretty self-sufficient, looking for someone to share a LTR with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399515**

SENSUAL female looking to enjoy life a little more, seeking likeminded male to enjoy interesting conversations over dinner, hopefully furthering our experience. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399195**

BLACK beautiful female, 5ft 7ins, likes most things in life, seeks special male for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398391**

SINGLE mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329**

48YR old female, kind, loving, caring, genuine, fun loving, loves music, singing, theatre, holidays, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387797**

FEMALE looking for male for friendship and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392365**

SHAY 39 looking for fun loving male to brighten up my world! There must be someone out there prepared to take on a feisty attractive professional with OHAC, money in the bank and a great body! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403341**

JACQUELINE widow, 82, easy-going, not ugly or neurotic, good listener, caring, loyal, seeks gent, 60-80 for conversation, company and outings. Sevenoaks, car driver. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403397**

SHARON 37yr old size 10 attractive feminine blonde, divorced with OHAC, seeks nice male who like me is fed up with being on their own. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403351**

Men Seeking

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TALL friendly, light hearted, single, 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR with mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405557**

DISCREET kind man, 48, gentle, loving, genuine, seeking lady, Whitstable. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406439**

RICHARD divorced, 61, N/S, likes classic cars, looking to meet nice lady for meals out, days out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406349**

BRIAN 6ft 3ins, medium build, blue eyes, brown hair, fun loving, happy go lucky, honest, seeks special lady for fun and to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406333**

MIKE 39, 6ft 7ins, large build, blue eyes, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406321**

DEREK Croydon area, 52, self employed, seeks female for 1-2-1 relationship, likes meals out, places of interest, holidays. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406559**

OUTGOING professional, fun loving, entertaining male, seeking warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405633**

70YRS young male, good looking, GSOH, seeking lady for love and affection. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403455**

RONALD 65 plus, 5ft 9ins, slim, sociable, GSOH, tactile, N/S, many interests, seeking lady dance partner to learn ballroom and Latin. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403211**

STEVE 64, active, likes fishing, swimming, karaoke, honest, genuine, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405717**

CANTERBURY sign language interpreter 58, 5ft 10ins, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, seeks slim-medium build female, 21-42 for LTR. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405697**

BLACK male, looking for 1-2-1 relationship with laid back, understanding female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406221**

MEDWAY male, 60's, solvent, seeks attractive lady, 55-65, GSOH to wine, dine and share the good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405429**

RETIRED male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589**

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405519**

ANDY 36, sexy, fun, come say hello. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402903**

35YR old male, 6ft, dark hair, easy going, likes music, films, reading, walks, looking for female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405941**

ACTIVE 60's semi-retired man, OHAC, GSOH, enjoys theatre, dancing, singing, amateur dramatics, coast, gardening etc., WLTM n/s female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404671**

FIT fellow, full of fun, 58, seeks to find fanciable lady for free and fascinating future for LTR. Find your jar half full. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405857**

DAVE 45, 6ft, large build, ginger hair, green eyes, caring, OHAC, likes laugh, cinema, pubs, restaurants, walks, shopping, music, dvds, gardening, animals, seeks female of similar age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405451**

RETIRED male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589**

VIC mid 60's medium build male, active, N/S, likes countryside, DIY, seeks compatible female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405085**

CHRIS from Folkestone, 68yrs young widower, N/S, 5ft 9ins, OHAC, likes country music, rock n roll, WLTM N/S female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405079**

CHRIS 68, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

40 something Gemini 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, varied outdoor interests, seeks similar outgoing female, 30-45 for dates and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404535**

TED 63, 5ft 7ins, average build, seeks female 55-75 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401913**

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Children/animals welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404537**

THANET male, young mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive local soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403729**

MICHAEL slim, 44, likes CD, films, seeks older male 55 plus for fun times in the Thanet area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404373**

PAUL 49 5ft 8ins likes eating/nights in/out seeks loving female for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404013**

DENNIS 53yrs retired police officer living in Kent, WLTM female for mutual fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404201**

EDDIE African male, seeking female, 20-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394354**

GARDENER 50, 6ft, honest, happy, single, fit gardener seeks attractive younger lady for fun NSA nights in, weekends away, country walks, picnics and good conversation. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404115**

SALVATORE 68, N/S, widow, Italian, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402481**

KEVIN 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405**

KEVIN 50 6ft average build, kind, caring, GSOH, black hair, hazel eyes, various interests, seeks female 35-55 for friendship/romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405087**

FUN fit, 60yr old male, seeks older, well built female for no strings discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404971**

BRUCE likes meals out, romantic walks, days out, seeking lady, 40-60 for friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403097**

CHRIS 58, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

BLACK male, 50, bubbly personality, seeks buxom, pear shaped, rubinesque white female, 25-55 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402887**

GENUINE fun loving guy 55, medium build, blue eyes, seeks genuine lady, 45-57 for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401761**

GRAHAM 52, N/S, likes days out, antique fairs, animals, seeks slim, attractive, N/S lady, 40-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401727**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401595**

BRIAN fun loving, happy go lucky, likes walks, animals, cuddles, nights in/out, seeking loving, caring female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402729**

BLACK British male, African descent, medium build, varied interests, understanding, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402641**

ROBERT medium build, single, seeks nice, attractive, busty female with sexy clothes. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402597**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easy-going, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402531**

YOUNG mixed race male, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402499**

AARON 35, no ties, 5ft 9ins, clean shaven, attractive, Italian background, chef, down to earth, open minded, likes meals out, weekends away, socialising, cinema, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402497**

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TV/BI CD, seeks feminine male with similar interests for discreet daytime meets. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406735**

PETER looking for male, 30-60 for casual fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406049**

THANET male, mid 60's, inexperienced, seeks male of similar age for occasional meetings and mutual interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405863**

BI guy, CD, 57, OHAC, seeking similar for mutual fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404907**

EASY-GOING guy, medium build, likes outdoors, DIY, seeking slim, N/S guy for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403267**

BI male, senior, clean shaven, Maidstone area, seeks bi male, N/S for occasional meets, must be discreet, 45-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402393**

DAVID 66, retired, fit, looking for man, 50-75 for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402249**

STEVEN 63, looking for LTR with man, 59 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402147**

BI guy 45, seeking similar bi guy for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402093**

THANET male, mid 60's, inexperienced, seeks male, any age for discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401915**

Friendship

STRAIGHT male, 40, Medway, seeks sports buddies into table tennis, golf, snooker and pool. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405417**

MALE early 80's, fit, active, many interests, seeks similar male for friendship and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401621**

JACK mature male, Thanet area, seeks friends of either sex, any age for chats. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399455**

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Greg Miles meets Les McKeown, frontman of 70s chart-toppers The Bay City Rollers, who reveals the many highs and darker lows that have made him the man he is today

McKeown reflective on Rollers' failure to do it their way



STILL UPFRONT: Les McKeown was just 18 when The Bay City Rollers took the UK charts by storm followed by worldwide success

FOR a few years the Bay City Rollers had an incredible grip on a generation of pop fans in the 70s, selling millions of albums, starting a tartan trend and sending young girls dizzy with Rollermania.

But fast forward 40 years, and that era with its brand of clean-cut pop has left its mark on former frontman Les McKeown, whose scars have slowly healed enabling him to move on with his life after drug and alcohol problems, debts, and revelations about his sexual relationship with the band's now dead manager Tam Paton coming to light in recent years.

There is also the on-going lawsuit to reclaim millions of pounds of unpaid royalties.

The 56-year-old, who is coming to Dartford in September with The Bay City Rollers Story, a show of live music and anecdotes from his career, started his journey into worldwide stardom in 1973, after the group had already released their first single Keep On Dancing which peaked at nine in the UK charts.

McKeown went on to lead them through a five-year period which saw the band hit the UK top 10 eight more times with hits such as Shang A Lang, Bye Bye Baby and Give a Little Love; the latter two both reaching number one.

This success all took place under the management of Paton who had a big influence on the members of the group; guitarists Eric Faulkner, Stuart Wood, bassist Alan Longmuir and his brother and drummer Derek.

McKeown, who was 18 when he joined the band, has previously revealed a sexually abusive relationship with the manager who was jailed for three years in 1982, for sexual abuse against teenage boys.

"That was what Mr Paton was good at, manipulation," he said. "He kept us in competition with each other and didn't allow the band to gel in the way it should have; for us to progress from young men.

'I've diced with drink, drugs and death. I've been through the ringer and somehow I've come out relatively unscathed.'

"He wanted us to stay as the Bay City Rollers in the same clothes for as long as people in the public would buy it.

"The band had a view that we were songwriters and could move into a grown-up band at some stage.

"We trusted him at one point and distrusted him at another point.

"We've all been horribly scarred by the past. I've been lucky enough to go through therapy and get it out of my system. I don't know how they are [other band members] coping with that.

"His relationships with each individual were different. He had a different plan on how to manipulate them. He treated us all separately and used our strengths and weaknesses against us.

"He kept us from having a strong friendship and a strong bond. If we were closely connected with each other his position was a bit dodgy. He had to keep the individuals needing him for his career."

The Bay City Rollers creativity was pushed to the side though by those in charge who wanted to continue on the path that had found them fame in the first place.

"We had another side to us. We wanted to write music and be serious about where we wanted to go," he said.

"That got suffocated by other people.

Continued on page 37

Features team
Editor: **Dave Mairs**
dave.mairs@archant.co.uk
Tel: 01303 817022

Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk
Tel: 01303 817048

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SEASON HIGHLIGHTS AT CHURCHILL THEATRE BROMLEY



SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME
TUE 30 JUL - SAT 10 AUG



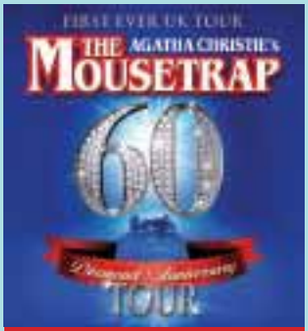
DORA THE EXPLORER
MON 12 - WED 14 AUG



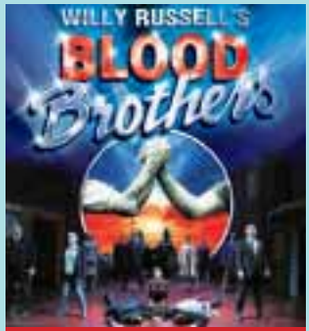
SOUL SISTER
MON 26 - SAT 31 AUG



SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS
FRI 13 - SAT 21 SEP



THE MOUSETRAP
MON 23 - SAT 28 SEP



BLOOD BROTHERS
TUE 8 - SAT 12 OCT



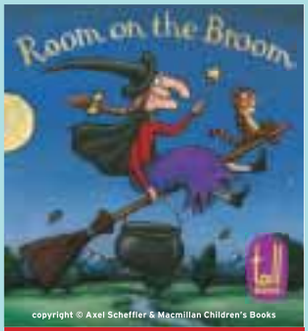
THREE PHANTOMS
WED 16 - THU 17 OCT



SEPTEMBER IN THE RAIN
MON 28 OCT - SAT 2 NOV



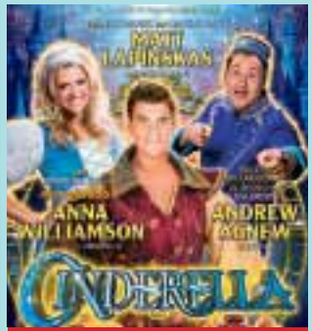
HA HA HOLMES!
SUN 3 NOV



ROOM ON A BROOM
WED 6 - SAT 9 NOV



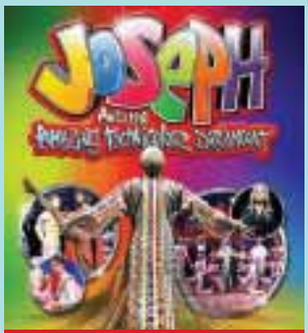
THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY
FRI 22 - SAT 23 NOV



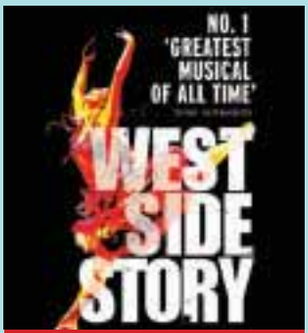
CINDERELLA
FRI 29 NOV - SUN 5 JAN



HAPPY DAYS
MON 13 - SAT 18 JAN



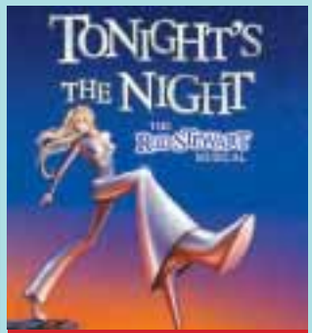
JOSEPH
TUE 11 - SAT 15 FEB



WEST SIDE STORY
TUE 4 - SAT 8 MAR



RUSSIAN BALLET
THU 20 - SAT 22 MAR



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Continued from page 33

"They wanted the gravy train to keep producing gravy and were worried if we went off on a tangent, making decisions by ourselves, Christ knows what would have happened."

As the band's popularity started to wane near the end of the 1970s, the band started to fracture with the original members splintering – including McEwan who left after a tour of Japan.

But, like so many bands of their time, they claim to have sold millions of records, yet made little financial return.

The band are currently in a long-running dispute with Artista Records over unpaid royalties which could run in to millions of pounds.

They put their differences aside in 2007, to launch the claim.

McKeown said: "When it was all going horribly wrong we made a lot of bad business decisions. Us being the way we were, poorly educated kids from a working-class part of Edinburgh we believed them.

"'It's us against the world', they said. If you hear that enough at that age you believe it.

"It (the lawsuit) keeps raising its very attractive financial head. I had booked a flight to go to America three years ago for a trial, but there has been a motion for this and that and it's another two months added. I think all the possible motions have now been exhausted."

McKeown is remaining open-minded about the outcome and insists he does not want it to affect him.

"I've learnt not to think too much like that because it's bad for me," he said.

"I need to keep myself in a nice positive world. It's not a fantasy world, but something could happen with it. It's either going to come or not. But there's nothing I can do about it.

"There are people that have invested millions of pounds in our court case, travelling all over the world to get royalty statements or to fly us to America.



"Knowing what I know about Americans makes me think they wouldn't do it if they weren't certain.

"But right now, everybody is smiling and loving hearing me sing and I'm happy. That's worth a lot more than all those dollars that may or may not come."

Since the lawsuit started McKeown has got himself straight again after time in rehab in 2008, when he was told he could die if he carried on his alcohol abuse.

"I've had a second chance at doing so many things again after my stint with alcohol. I'm happy on so many accounts," he said.

"In 2008, I went into rehab for four weeks and ended up in there for four months in Malibu in California. The owner wouldn't let me leave the place until he thought I was ready to go back into the world. He didn't charge me: I think it cost £800 a day – you wouldn't get that on the NHS.

"I came out in early 2009, and felt a bit funny for a while, but found my feet again. I go from strength to strength each time I do something that's good, from the big things to the little things. Whether it's booking a Travelodge in Guatemala to appearing on a stage in front of 5,000 people. Each time something works out it goes into my positive bank.

"I'm pretty much fully restored to tell the truth. I'm in charge of it myself. There's not some big company behind me or a manager manipulating things; that was part of the problem in the first place.

"I tend to look back on the great years I had in the band. That's the positive that I draw on to see me through these times and bring back my original personality.

"I've diced with drink, drugs and death, I've been through the ringer and I've come out relatively unscathed."

With the revelations about Paton's abuse of McKeown coming to light, the singer is hopeful it will raise awareness of sexual abuse and revealed it has led to people who suffered as he did get in touch with him.

McKeown said: "Unfortunately, The Bay City Rollers tend to conjure up memories of child abuse for some people. But I meet so many people who our music has helped through dark times. People are more open to talking to me in private about it now. The thing not to lose sight of is it's going on now.

"I still think a lot should be done to encourage people to speak up and the powers that be should be there.

"People should be very careful what they do in messing around with people's heads."

McKeown left the group in 1978, to pursue a solo career. He was followed out the band shortly afterwards by Paton who was sacked.

He formed a new band, called Ego Trip, releasing the album All Washed Up and went on to sell millions of records in Japan and Germany into the early 1980s.

His departure came at a time when the band's success was waning and creative rifts began to emerge.

"We believed the hype as much as anything else," he said. "We lost ourselves in our career; we didn't think about it that much. If we could do it all again we would, but with a mature head.

"Things were disjointed. There was a stage where I was ready to do X and they weren't and a stage where they were ready and I wasn't.

"We were developing at different speeds. I might have wanted things for the good of the band and the band weren't ready to hear it and likewise."

Now, though, McKeown can develop at his own speed, under his own steam, back doing what he loves best.

■ The Bay City Rollers Story is at the Orchard Theatre in Dartford on Tuesday, September 24 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £17.50-£19.50. To book call 01322 220000 or visit the theatre's website at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

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Join those who 'bee-lieve' in action

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

FOLLOWING new government plans to tackle the decline of Britain's bees, campaigners in Tunbridge Wells have organised a second walk to encourage people to realise the importance of the debate.

The Tunbridge Wells branch of Friends of the Earth has cautiously welcomed environment minister Lord de Mauley's 'national pollinator strategy' designed to help the country's flagging bee numbers and other pollinating insects.

Honeybees are nearly extinct and solitary bees are declining in more than half the areas they have been studied in. Some species of bumblebee have been lost altogether.



DYING OUT: Bees are under threat

Other research has revealed a dozen of the UK's most iconic bees, including our rarest solitary bee, the large mason bee, are in jeopardy, while a third of all England's honeybee colonies died over the winter.

The local Friends of the Earth branch played a big part by publicising the campaign and collecting signatures for a petition with chairman Iain Dalgleish writing to Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark on the subject to enlist his support.

They want a clear plan put in place by spring of next year to reverse the decline.

Anthony Bales, from the group, said: "Along with scientists and businesses, there has been tremendous public pressure on MPs. Those in Tunbridge Wells and the surrounding areas who signed the petitions and took action have helped to sting the Government into announcing a bee action plan.

"The minister's plan of action must be in place when bees emerge from hibernation next spring.

"We can't afford to gamble any longer with our food, countryside and economy."

Friends of the Earth in Tunbridge Wells has now organised another Bee Walk to continue gathering support for the campaign.

It takes place on Sunday, August 18, and will again be led by Ian Beavis, local naturalist and a curator at Tunbridge Wells Museum.

The walk starts at 10.30am from the car park opposite Linden Cricket Club Pavilion on Fir Tree Road, The Common, and will last for about two hours.

Sculptors to blossom in garden's setting

THE work of budding sculptors will be on display at Godinton House Gardens from this weekend onwards.

The house, near Ashford, is holding its annual exhibition of work from talented new artists in its 13-acre gardens. This year, for the first time, it features Michael Kusz's Graculus Sculptures – a selection of quirky copper birds which will be hidden among the flora and fauna.

Guy Portelli's Equilleus – a galloping stainless steel horse – will also be on show alongside work from local artists such as Wendy Love Hinds and Tim Riddihough.

The works come in all shapes and sizes and from a range of materials including ceramics, bronzes, resins, iron, wood and glass.

Godinton's head gardener Viv Hunt, who organises the annual show, said: "We are always thrilled to see the new work installed and how it brings the garden to life. It's a joy making the garden a gallery for three weeks every year."

The gardens are open daily from 2pm-5.30pm. Entrance is £5 for adults and free for children. The house and tea room are open Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

The exhibition runs from July 27 until August 18.



SPOTLIGHT: Works at Godinton

FAB FOUR

Hever Castle, Edenbridge
August 3 and 4, 10.30am-6pm
Call: 01732 865224
Website: www.hevercastle.co.uk
Paws at the Castle: The historic castle is holding its first ever dog show, with demonstrations, dog agility competitions, dancing dogs and plenty more to keep owners and their pets entertained.

Folkestone Jazz Club
August 1, 8pm
Call: 01303 277175
Email: dwoodland05@aol.com
The Best of British Jazz: Modern jazz comes to Folkestone with the Simon Spillett Quartet, including tenor Spillett, John Critchinson, Alex Dankworth and Clark Tracey. Tickets £10.

Hazlitt Arts Centre, Maidstone
August 5, 7.30pm
Call: 01622 758611
Website: www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk
Writers' Group Prose: Learn all about the art of writing through this engaging workshop, which is £6 per session or if you want to book for the season of workshops it is £20.

The Orchard Theatre, Dartford
August 8, 7.30pm
Call: 01322 220000
Website: www.orchardtheatre.co.uk
Dancing Queen The Concert: Enjoy all the greatest party hits from the 1970s featuring Dancing Queen, Waterloo, Grease, YMCA and more. Tickets £19.50.

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FAST TRACK: Host of activities at Buckmore Park

Laser warfare adds to the excitment of karting

FAMILIES will be on track for a good time at Buckmore Park karting circuit during the summer holidays.

As well as the traditional kart action the venue, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, has its Laser Warfare zone open for ages eight and above where family and friends can do battle within a special 'warzone'.

Youngsters aged six and over can enter the Kart School and receive expert tuition where British Formula One world champions Jenson Button and Lewis Hamilton honed their skills.

The track's Turn Up 'n' Drive Days for ages four and above offer the perfect step for any youngster looking to get behind the wheel of a four-wheeled speed machine.

And if you like your celebrations with a touch of speed too, you can host your children's karting party there.

For further information or to book, call 01634 661612 or visit website www.buckmore4kids.co.uk.

Festival a treasure trove for county's finest ciders

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

MORE THAN 70 different fine ciders and perrys will be on display at this year's annual Brogdale Cider Festival.

The festival will be celebrating the history of farmhouse-style cider with the chance to see first hand how it is made thanks to a visit from Faversham's Kent Cider Company (KCC).

There will also be music from local bands and headline act Coco and the Butterfields at the event on August 24-25.

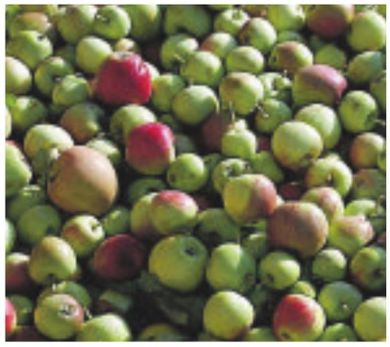
Owner of the KCC, Mark Henderson, will be at the festival with a traditional cider press to demonstrate cider-making methods which have been used for hundreds of years.

He said: "We aim to produce ciders with depth, unique flavours and finishes.

"To achieve this we follow a rustic process starting with sourcing heritage apple varieties, then press with a traditional oak press and leave for nature to take its course in fermenting the juice."

Bernie Cranfield, events and marketing manager at Brogdale, said: "The range and taste of ciders is extraordinary. Kent is a treasure trove of small producers and we are dedicated to bringing them together to showcase artisan ciders while giving our visitors the opportunity to taste and enjoy them over the weekend."

Producers will enter a cider competition sponsored by the National Association of Cider Makers in the hope of being awarded top prize for the best artisan cider.



CHEERS: Brogdale Cider Festival will show the processes used to create a delicious cider or perry

Local food will accompany the cider along with a wild food tent to introduce foraged food and game to visitors.

Ms Cranfield added: "The festival is growing into an event that can be enjoyed by the whole family. We are introducing more children's activities including a creepy crawly tent and a barrel train pulled by a quad bike."

For more information visit www.brogdale.org.

FAB FOUR

The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury
August 7-11, 10.30am and 1.30pm
Call: 01227 787787
Website: www.marlowetheatre.com
The Gruffalo's Child: Enjoy children's entertainment at the start of the holidays following the Gruffalo child's adventures into the woods. Tickets £12.50.

Margate
August 3 and 4, 2pm-9pm
Call: 01843 221704
Website: www.margatesoulweekend.co.uk
Margate Civic Carnival Soul Weekend: Street parties, live acts and DJs will form one of the south east's biggest soul music festivals to coincide with the Margate Carnival.

Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone
August 11, 5pm
Call: 01303 228600
Website: www.leascliffhall.co.uk
Glenn Miller Orchestra: Big Band Show: Band leader Ray McVay leads the Glenn Miller Orchestra through more than two hours of wartime classics. Tickets £22.40.

The Woodlands, Swanley
August 1, 7pm-8.45pm
Call: 01376 512292
Website: www.big-sing.com
The Swanley Big Sing: Have you ever wanted to join a choir? Now is your chance and no experience is necessary. Rehersals are every Thursday, £5 per session.

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ROCKIN' ON: Caravan will perform in Whitstable

Caravan travelling home to perform one night only gig

CANTERBURY legends Caravan will be heading back to the county for a one-night-only show in Whitstable in November.

The 1970s group were a leading light on the Canterbury scene and quickly picked up a loyal following with their jazz-riddled psychedelic rock.

After various line-up changes and periods of being official disbanded they will be returning to the county following a sold-out show at the South Bank Centre in London earlier this year.

Tickets are £17.50 and are available from www.whitlive.co.uk and in person at Gatefield Sounds in Whitstable and Herne Bay and Canterbury Rock in Canterbury.

The gig takes place on Saturday, November 23 at the East Quay, in Whitstable.

Model fest reaches for the skies with dazzling display

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

ONE of Europe's biggest displays of hot air balloons will come to Kent this autumn as part of the Southern Model Fest.

Earlier this summer it was announced the festival would be returning after a two-year absence – and to a new home at Headcorn Aerodrome. It takes place on September 14-15.

It will bring with it a huge display of hot air balloons for the first tme, along with thousands of models – from Red Arrows to tanks.

Event organiser Colin Hitchins, of Heritage Events, said: "This year's Southern Model Fest really will be firing on all cylinders. The event has grown and is so much more than models and aircraft now.

"We are really excited and proud to announce the event will boast 2013's biggest display of hot air balloons in the UK.

"Until recently it was widely regarded that Bristol's Balloon Fiesta was the biggest, however we will certainly be staging something more substantial thanks to our colleagues at Skybus ballooning at Headcorn Aerodrome.

"We will have some fantastic shaped balloons; from beer cans to a Trivial Pursuit board as well as the colourful and traditional shapes.

"Visitors will be treated to three different displays which include the magnificent 'Night Glow' – a really spectacular sight."



HIGH UP: Event will boast UK's biggest display

The event is expected to attract more than 12,000 visitors making it one of the largest shows of its kind in the country.

There will also be a special synchronised display by a pair of Red Arrow model aircraft.

Mr Hitchins added: "With the huge choice of models at the Southern Model Fest we hope to inspire some of the younger audience away from their computer remote controls and on to a car, plane or boat remote control.

"Headcorn Aerodrome is famous for having a unique mix of aviation and we will take it a stage further with model aircraft, full-size aircraft displays, hot air balloons and parachuting all choreographed to produce an exciting dynamic aerial display."

For more information visit the website www.heritage-events.co.uk.

Beatles tribute is back in the Woodville Halls

FIFTY years on from the Fab Four's arrival in the charts with Please Please Me, The Magic of The Beatles is coming to Gravesend.

The tribute to the Liverpool legends will be playing at the Woodville Halls on Friday, October 18, with a show that promises an authentic recreation of their work.

"The Magic of the Beatles superbly recreates these legendary live performances, and more," said show producer Michael Taylor.

"Fantastic costumes, brilliant vocals and incredible musicianship come together in a lavish magical musical trip back to yesterday.

"Please Please Me was The Beatles first number one hit and was the genesis of the greatest band in the world.

"Fifty years on, this fantastic show ensures the Fab Four's incredible musical legacy lives on, live and in concert."

Tickets to the show, which starts at 7.30pm, are £20, and are available by calling 01474 337774, or visiting www.woodville.co.uk or www.easytheatres.com.



HITS: The Magic of the Beatles recreate Fab Four

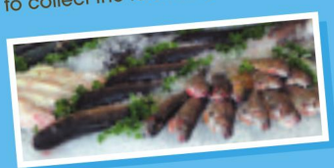
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Romney Marsh Fish Market offers a large selection of fresh seafood and local fish, if we haven't got what you want we'll simply get it for you to collect the following day!





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KENT LIFE
Kent on Sunday
kent-life.co.uk kentnews.co.uk
FOOD&DRINK AWARDS 2013

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We are delighted to be able to bring you the very first *Kent Life & Kent on Sunday* Food & Drink Awards

THE Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards will take place at Tudor Park Hotel on Thursday, November 14, 2013, from 6.30pm to midnight.

These brand-new awards are designed to champion, highlight and offer a showcase to the good and the great from the county's food and drink industry, including local producers and suppliers, small farming businesses, chefs, restaurants, pubs and hoteliers – people who care about the countryside and the future of our local environment.

The companies nominated will all be voted for by you, our readers. We want to know if you've received a fantastic meal at your local pub or have been impressed by the produce and service at your farmers' market or farm shop.

Entry forms are available online at **www.kentnews.co.uk**.

Entries close on Friday, August 30, 2013.

Our panel of judges will then select a shortlist, kickstarting the independent judging process where finalists will be visited or interviewed to determine a worthy winner in each category.

All finalists will be invited to the prestigious awards ceremony in November, where they will enjoy a Champagne reception and three-course meal based on locally-sourced produce before finding out if they are a winner.

This is the first Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards and we are immensely proud to be able to offer you the chance to reward and recognise the deserving businesses within our local food and drink industry, the ones that consistently go above and beyond expectations.

These awards are what you make of them so if you are the owner of a restaurant, a budding chef or local producer, then help to spread the word among your clients and visitors.

With our online voting system up and running, it takes no time at all to cast your vote.

The judging panel is looking for quality over quantity, focusing on good comments rather than number of votes, so everybody is in with a chance, no matter how big or small your business is.

Event Partner:

TUDOR PARK
A MARRIOTT HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB

AWARDS CRITERIA

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Pomegranate Catering

This popular category is open to anyone in the food or drink business who has started a new venture within the last 18 months. It could be any food and drink business but we want to know what impact they have made on the local community and whether they have started to achieve any success further afield. Are they helping to promote Kent food and drink to a new audience? Tell us who has impressed you.

BUTCHER OF THE YEAR

Porsche Centre Tonbridge

This category is here for one reason and that is to praise our many local butchers and everything they do for Kent. Consider asking your butcher how their meat is hung, prepared and cut and whether it can be traced to a local farm. Are the staff knowledgeable and helpful? Does the butcher play a key role within the local community? If so, nominate them.

BEST TEA SHOP OF THE YEAR

A AUDLEY

We recognise that tea shops are an integral part of the Kent food and drink scene and we'd like to know your favourites. Who makes the best tea, serves the nicest cakes and the freshest scones? Is the jam home made and are the sandwiches freshly cut and liberally filled? Most importantly, are most of the ingredients locally sourced? We're looking forward to hearing about your favourites.

INDEPENDENT RETAILER OF THE YEAR



This category acknowledges the hard work Kent's independent food and drink retailers put into giving their customers the best possible experience in-store, reinforcing their role at the heart of the community and showing true innovation with their displays. We are looking for independent retailers who put local and seasonal at the heart of the food and drink experience and who are proud to work with and support the best the Garden of England can offer.

BEST FARM SHOP

WAGGON at HALE

Just like our Farmers' Markets, a good farm shop needs to have that extra-special something to tempt shoppers away from their local supermarket. Are the staff friendly and knowledgeable, is the range of produce and the layout of an excellent standard, does your local farm shop offer a box scheme? Is most of the produce sold there grown or raised on that farm, or nearby and if not would the owner be able to tell you where it is from?

BEST FOOD OR DRINK PRODUCER

This category celebrates our local suppliers and producers who play such a vital role in the food community. We are looking for someone who consistently provides a reliable quality of products and services to their customers. So whether it's your local bakery, drinks merchant or meat producer, we want to know why this person or business goes the extra mile for you and gets your vote.

BEST FAMILY DINING VENUE

Eastwell Manor

We've all experienced that sinking feeling when you go out for a meal with the family and you know almost immediately the proprietors and staff would have preferred you to have left the kids at home. We want to know about the exact opposite, those establishments that welcome and treat with respect your whole party, from elderly to very young, and ideally don't banish you too an outer room away from the main dining area. Do they have high-quality menus that suit every age group, provide high chairs if needed, offer useful distractions such as paper and crayons for younger children to use at the table? Is there a children's play area and good baby-changing facilities in the toilets? And most importantly is the food of an excellent standard and worthy of mum and dad as well as the younger members of the party? Tell us all about your best family dining experience in Kent.

BEST PUB OF THE YEAR

faversham.org connect

Combining country pubs and dining pubs, the whole eating-out experience needs to be taken into account in this category. Customer service, value for money and the quality of the food should all be accounted for. How well does the establishment you recommend use and name local suppliers and seasonal produce throughout its menus? Neighbourhood pubs are at the heart of the local community and this category is your chance to give something back for all the enjoyment they give you. Are the staff friendly and welcoming, even if it isn't your local? Are there local ales, juices, wines and ciders available to purchase and if so, are they proudly on display? Also, note the quality and speed of the service, the overall atmosphere and ambience, both inside and outside in the beer garden.

BEST FARMER'S MARKET

MYFERRYLINK
Owned and run by the crew

The key to a good Farmers' Market is not only the range of produce and the quality of its stalls but also the principles that it supports – for example, does it work as a co-operative with other farmers, is most of the produce sold there grown or raised locally? Are the stallholders welcoming and knowledgeable and is the layout easy to navigate as you move around the market? Are any extras offered on a regular basis, such as cookery demonstrations or talks, is it well advertised so you can plan your visit in advance, is there good accessibility and parking?

RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR

SIDNEY MARSH FISH MARKET

We suspect that this category will be one of our most coveted awards, as the Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Restaurant of the Year needs to offer an incomparable dining experience, from the ambience to the service and most importantly the food. Is it locally sourced and does it change with the seasons? Does chef support local producers and are they recognised on the menu? Look through the wine list, are there local as well as international wines and sparkling wines and can the staff tell you more if you ask? We'd expect nothing less from our Restaurant of the Year.

CHEF OF THE YEAR

Swans Kitchens & Bathrooms Ltd

Kent is blessed with outstanding chefs working in the county's fantastic array of restaurants. The Chef of the Year should be someone who has devoted him or herself to the cause of serving the best possible food. They will demonstrate technical ability, use of seasonal ingredients, presentation of the food and an understanding of how flavours work together. They will be able to lead and inspire their team and to talk to customers knowledgeably about the dishes they have enjoyed. Above all, we are looking for passion – that magic ingredient that defines true greatness in the kitchen.

BEST KENT FOOD AND DRINK HERO

Kent has a food and drink scene that is more vibrant than many others across the UK. This category celebrates the individual who has made the most impact on the food or drink community – someone who goes the extra mile to promote Kent to a wider audience and is passionate about local produce throughout. Now is your chance to nominate your own Kent food and drink hero.

To be included on this page, please email **features@kosmedia.co.uk**

Why the Windmill is turning in the right direction for Phillips

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**

HAVING taken a Michelin star back to his Thackeray's restaurant at Tunbridge Wells after a seven year absence, Richard Phillips is probably having one of his best years as a chef patron.

Kent born and bred, Phillips' fame extends outside the kitchen and on to our TV screens as one of the many 'celebrity chefs' plying their trade on daytime and prime-time schedules.

And his portfolio of properties in his home county is growing too; a list which includes The Pearson's Arms in Whitstable, The Hengist in Maidstone and The Windmill at Hollingbourne.

And it was the latter which drew my attention on a visit to the charming village.

With black beams and white walls, it is very in keeping with the current trend of gastro pubs.

The changing lunch menus are penned on brown paper scrolls hanging from the ceiling making a creative change to the modern classic blackboards and chalk.

On a Wednesday evening, it was far from full, yet a centrally located bar gives it a buzz and atmosphere.

We were greeted at the table with a metal pie tin filled with salmon and dill mousse on melba toast, compliments of the chef.

It was delightfully light and, like the traditional on-the-house bread basket, always gratefully received. To start I opted for the Cornish crab



and pickled raddish salad, served with avocado, and peanut dressing on toasted brioche; an excellent summer starter.

My guest went for the Weald smoked duck breast, crisp pancetta, poached grapes and confit duck egg.

The complex but delcious entree offered a further example of creative presentation as the breast arrived in tightly curled rolls and were designed to be dipped in the perfectly cooked runny duck egg.

Onto the main course and I chose a succulent roasted loin of Charing pork which came wrapped in cured ham.

It was presented with salsify, cumin seeded carrots and spring onions covered in honey, mustard and Kentish rapeseed dressing.

It sat on top of a bed of spinach which soaked up the juices of the meat and dressing – making for a dish bursting with flavour.

My guest went for the pub's deal of the day - the Windmill burger and drink for £10.

Arriving on a piece of wood, the burger came with home made chunky chips and burger sauce; a far cry from the more intricate dishes, but satisfactory, none-the-less.

For dessert I chose an artistic white chocolate cheese cake served with mango sorbet, blackberries and honeycomb. Again it was excellent and really added a melt in mouth end to the meal.

My guest went for a traditional peach melba with raspberry purree and vanilla ice cream.

The total bill, with a couple of drinks, came to £70.25. The Windmill's mix of classic pub grub with fine dining offers its visitors something well above what is fast becoming the "gastro pub"tedium.

Joe Bill

■ **The Windmill**
32 Eyhorne St, Hollingbourne, Maidstone, ME17 1TR. (phone 01622 889000)

Chocolate cafe set to branch into county

LUXURY hot chocolate specialist Cocoba is to open its first chocolate café outside London after unveiling plans for an outlet at the Bluewater shopping centre.

The 1,050 sq ft café will open early this autumn and is only the brand's second outlet in the UK.

The café traditionally serves luxury hot and iced chocolates and hand-roasted artisan coffee, as well as a choice of cakes, pastries and savoury offerings.

Darren Litton, founder of Cocoba, added: "Bluewater is going to be a great location. Its profile and success create a strong platform from us to grow."

Nominate a favourite curry house for gong

IT'S time to nominate for the Asian Curry Awards.

Open to all Indian and Asian restaurants in Britain, 11 regional winners will go through to a glittering award dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel on London's Park Lane, on November 17.

Categories include restaurateur of the year, takeaway of the year, newcomer of the year and chef of the year.

Competing chefs will be invited to prepare a signature dish and be judged on criteria of innovation, technical skill, nutritional value, food hygiene, creativity and, of course, taste.

To vote: www.asiancurryawards.co.uk.

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And guess what?
This local delight is available exclusively to buy at the Marquis.
So come over and enjoy a glass to start a meal -
perhaps take a bottle home with you.



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Mill Rythe Hayling Island near Portsmouth | **Grease** Tribute Show | **Frankie Valli & Bee Gees** tributes | **Xmas** Team Show | **£1.50 Drinks** 6pm to Midnight every night



Quote MR11-KOS

We had a fabulous Christmas Party at Mill Rythe in 2012, so we're doing it all again. We've booked the whole resort and great entertainment including a Grease movie screening & Tribute Show, great tribute and team shows and a host of festive fun.

INCLUDED: £1.50 drinks from 6pm to midnight every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • Full Entertainment programme • 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts • 3 nights en-suite chalet - upgrades available



MAMMA MIA & SUPER 70S CHRISTMAS PARTY £219pp

£10pp DEPOSIT

3 nights semi-all-inclusive, Friday 29 Nov, 2013

Warner Norton Grange Isle of Wight | **ABBA** tribute ABBA RIVAL | **FREE DRINKS** 6pm to Midnight every night | **COMEDY LEGEND** Joey Howard | **Rod Stewart** tribute & Boogie Nights Team Show



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Quote NO11-KOS

INCLUDED: Free Bar from 6pm to midnight every night for house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea and standard coffee • Entertainment & Activities programme • 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts • 3 nights en-suite chalet - upgrades available • Car ferry crossing worth £45

SWINGING SIXTIES CARRY ON NEW YEAR PARTY

£10pp DEPOSIT

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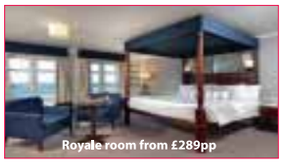
Warner Bembridge Hotel Isle of Wight | **The Fortunes** You've got your troubles Here it comes again Storm in a teacup | **FREE DRINKS** 6pm to Midnight every night | **COMEDY LEGEND** Joey Howard | **Dusty Springfield** tribute & 60s Team Show



Quote WS1-KOS







Royale room from £289pp

Our private party extends the New Year festivities and takes us on a trip down memory lane at our favourite Warner hotel. Enjoy a gala New Year's Eve party with countdown to midnight and great entertainment.

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COME DANCING PARTY
If you're a dance fan who enjoys ballroom and latin dancing, you'll love our popular Come Dancing Party, running alongside the Carry on New Year Party - add dance tuition, a Gala Ball, a huge dance floor with reserved table & seating and much more for just **£30pp** extra



CLASSIC PRIVATE PARTY BREAKS - 99P BAR - OVER 40S - PONTINS PAKEFIELD, LOWESTOFT

LAS VEGAS LEGENDS PARTY

£10pp DEPOSIT

£109pp 3 nights half board+99p Bar, Friday 4 October, 2013



Quote PL10-KOS

THE RAT PACK IS BACK tribute | **MICHAEL BUBLE** tribute | **Tom Jones** tribute | **Elvis** tribute

The Rat Pack and an endless list of world famous stars have made Las Vegas the entertainment capital of the world. We have reserved the whole resort to bring a taste of Vegas to Pakefield with tribute acts and a host of nostalgic fun.

INCLUDED: 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • Full entertainment programme • 3 nights en-suite chalet - upgrades available • 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners

SWINGING 60S CHRISTMAS PARTY

£10pp DEPOSIT

£109pp 3 nights half board+99p Bar, Friday 15 November, 2013



Quote MX11-KOS

The Four-most | **Edison light-house** | **The Mersey-beats**

We're taking a trip down memory lane at Pakefield, with a great line up of original 60s bands (and tiny bit of the 70s - Loves Grows hit the number 1 spot for Edison Lighthouse 30th Jan 1970) Plus a host of Festive and nostalgic fun.

INCLUDED: 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • Full entertainment programme • 3 nights en-suite chalet - upgrades available • 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners

DIRTY DANCING CHRISTMAS PARTY

£10pp DEPOSIT

£109pp 3 nights half board+99p Bar, Friday 8 November, 2013



Quote DD11-KOS

Let's Hang On the No 1 Frank Valli & Four Seasons tribute band | **An Evening of Dirty Dancing** Stage Show | **COMEDY NIGHT**

Join us for a fabulous festive party at Pontins Pakefield. Enjoy the classic sounds of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons with top tribute Let's Hang On, a spectacular Dirty Dancing stage show and movie screening, plus a top comedian in Cabaret.

INCLUDED: 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • Full entertainment programme • 3 nights en-suite chalet - upgrades available • 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners

ULTIMATE SWINGING 60S PARTY

£10pp DEPOSIT

£119pp 3 nights half board+99p Bar, Friday 7 March, 2014



Quote PU3-KOS

The Fortunes | **Swinging Blue Jeans** | **Union Gap** | **Vanity Fayre** | **Dusty Springfield & Billy Fury Tributes**

We're taking a trip down memory lane at Pakefield, with a great line up of original 60s bands including The Fortunes, Union Gap, Swinging Blue Jeans, Vanity Fayre and tribute acts to Dusty Springfield and Billy Fury. Plus a host of nostalgic fun.

INCLUDED: 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • Full entertainment programme • 3 nights en-suite chalet - upgrades available • 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners

Another fab GN weekend at Pakefield. Mamma Mia & Super 70s. Everyone had a good time, fancy dress was spectacular, staff excellent, so friendly, we can't wait to go again. Many thanks for making so many people happy, from Mr & Mrs Fox.

Just returned from your 60s weekend at Pakefield. We **couldn't fault anything**! We had great fun at the quizzes with Maria and the entertainment was brilliant. Have booked again for November Dirty Dancing. The break far exceeded our expectations. Thank you so much, B Freeman.

K O S

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UNITED: Gavin Tyler and James Beatton

Practices make the perfect combination as law firms merge

TWO of Kent's best-known law firms are to merge this year, it has been confirmed.

Kings Hill-based Vertex Law and Tunbridge Wells-based Cripps Harries Hall, will join forces at the end of September.

Combined, they will boast a firm with 45 partners and 260 staff.

Cripps' managing partner, Gavin Tyler, said: "I am really excited at the prospect of this merger. We have been looking to grow and this merger with Vertex Law is one that makes a lot of sense to us.

"Their practice complements ours perfectly; it allows both firms to boost their expertise, doubles the size of our current corporate and commercial practices and provides a better balance to our key practices in real estate, private client and corporate.

"The Vertex Law partners and staff have an entrepreneurial client base and approach, operating in the same or complementary sectors to ours, including technology and healthcare."

James Beatton, one of the founders of Vertex Law, said: "The two firms are a very good match and share the same values. Vertex benefits from Cripps Harries Hall's greater presence in London and the south east; in return we bring our strong position in the Kent commercial market as well as our unique culture and the value we place on innovation, staff empowerment and customer service.

"Both firms share similar strategic goals and are financially robust, so pooling our resources makes complete sense and establishes a strong basis for further regional growth."

The two firms will continue to trade under their own names pending full integration of the two businesses.

A branding exercise into what to call the new venture is under way.

The Vertex Law team will remain at Kings Hill.

If you have a business story, then we would like to hear from you. Telephone the newsdesk on **01303 817000**, or alternatively email your story to **editorial@kosmedia.co.uk**

Showground's investment puts facilities centre stage

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THIS is what the new £1.5 million Kent Event Centre will look like when work is complete – with those behind the project confident it will elevate the venue to being the largest and most flexible conference space in the county.

The work will see the existing Kent Pavilion at the Kent Showground in Detling pulled down, and replaced.

The new venue will seat up to 4,000 people 'theatre-style'. Work, say the Kent County Agricultural Society (KCAS), will begin in October and should be unveiled in time for next year's Kent County Show, which is staged on the site.

Glyn Charlton, honorary finance director of the KCAS, says: "This investment will further enhance the already excellent range of facilities here at the Kent Event Centre."

The project, funded by a Barclays Bank loan, is to be built by the Kent-based construction company Cardy. If all goes to plan, the project will be completed by the end of April 2014.

The last major expansion at the site was two years ago, when the ribbon was cut on the Clive Emson Conference Centre.

Event centre manager, Alison Wallington, said the on-going programme of investment in facilities at the centre, boosting choice and capacity for clients, was paying dividends in attracting more bookings.

She added: "By investing in facilities and maintaining a clear focus on customer service we are enjoying a hugely successful year, with bookings into 2014 looking very healthy.

"Businesses and event organisers are demanding choice, flexibility and value for money. While repeat bookings underpin our calendar, a number of new events are also being introduced.

"We are hosting more than 60 public events this year plus conferences, training courses and meetings.

"While there continues to be pressure on budgets, organisers place a high priority on getting value for money and that's where we score heavily. No other venue can offer the flexibility to cater for such a variety of functions.

"From large-scale Asian weddings to property auctions, from baby and toddler shows to Christmas parties, we really can provide whatever the customer wants."



PASTURES NEW: £1.5 million is to be spent on the Kent Event Centre

FORTUNES ON THE UP FOR COUNTY SHOW SITE

■ The Kent Showground's conference line-up consists of:
The Clive Emson Conference Centre (1,700 sq m); The John Hendry Pavilion (1,750sq m); The Astor Pavilion (151 sq m); The Kent Pavilion (3,000 sq m).
In addition, there are also six major meeting rooms and parking on site for 10,000 vehicles.

■ This year's Kent County Show was considered a great triumph compared to last year's loss-making fiasco, which blew a £250,000 hole in the KCAS' finances.

Heavy rain forced the 2012 event to close its gates early to cars with a big drop in crowds and enthusiasm as a consequence.

This year, however, an extra 20,000 attended as 75,000 people flooded in.

Organisers are still doing the sums on the money generated, to see if this year's event turned a profit, after extra costs were incurred to boost car parking to avoid no repeat of the 2012 problems.

Property development promises new jobs and £10m hotel



BIG JOB: Team behind development

MORE than 130 new jobs are to be created when a £10 million 92-room hotel, pub and residential area is created in Bexleyheath.

It will be formed by a new property development in Albion Road, which includes 43 flats, three commercial units, and an underground car park with 75 spaces.

The hotel will be leased by Premier Inn which says it expects it to generate £1m of business in the area. The flats have been sold to the Hyde Housing Association and will be available through a shared ownership scheme.

Family-run property firm Skillcrown Homes is behind the project, made possible courtesy of a £3.8m development loan from NatWest.

Yalpiray Osman owns the firm.

He said: "This is the biggest project we've undertaken in 20 years of trading which has allowed our company to grow substantially.

"With the hotel freehold remaining in our hands it will also provide a sustained income."

As a result, Skillcrown Homes has added to its head office team and expects its turnover to increase by 20-25 per cent.

Corrado Vulpio, of the NatWest real estate team, added: "This development will give the community a real boost. I'm really looking forward to seeing the development come to fruition in my local area."

In addition, Skillcrown Homes has worked with Lombard – NatWest's dedicated asset finance provider – to secure a £60,000 asset finance facility to purchase a crane for use during the development.

The acquisition will save the company money on hiring and is a long-term investment.

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Construction site opportunity for unemployed at housing complex



A SKILLS academy has been given the seal of approval by councillors in Ashford.

The academy, which will be delivered during the construction phase of the council's sheltered housing scheme at Farrow Court, will give young people who have left school with few or no qualifications a real opportunity to work on site, gaining valuable experience.

The aim is to then get them into employment or an apprenticeship.

It will be run by Denne Construction, which gained national recognition in 2012 for its national skills academy on the Stanhope regeneration site, where, in a similar scheme, people aged up to 25 were given training or employment opportunities for the first time.

Ashford Borough Council's cabinet members approved the allocation of £90,000 to fund the skills academy over a period of three years. Work should be complete by 2016.

Enrolment days loom at NWK College sites

NORTH West Kent College is holding enrolments for its 2013-14 courses from August 27 to September 6 at both its Dartford and Gravesend campuses.

They will allow students to sign up for full-time, part-time, apprenticeships and higher education courses.

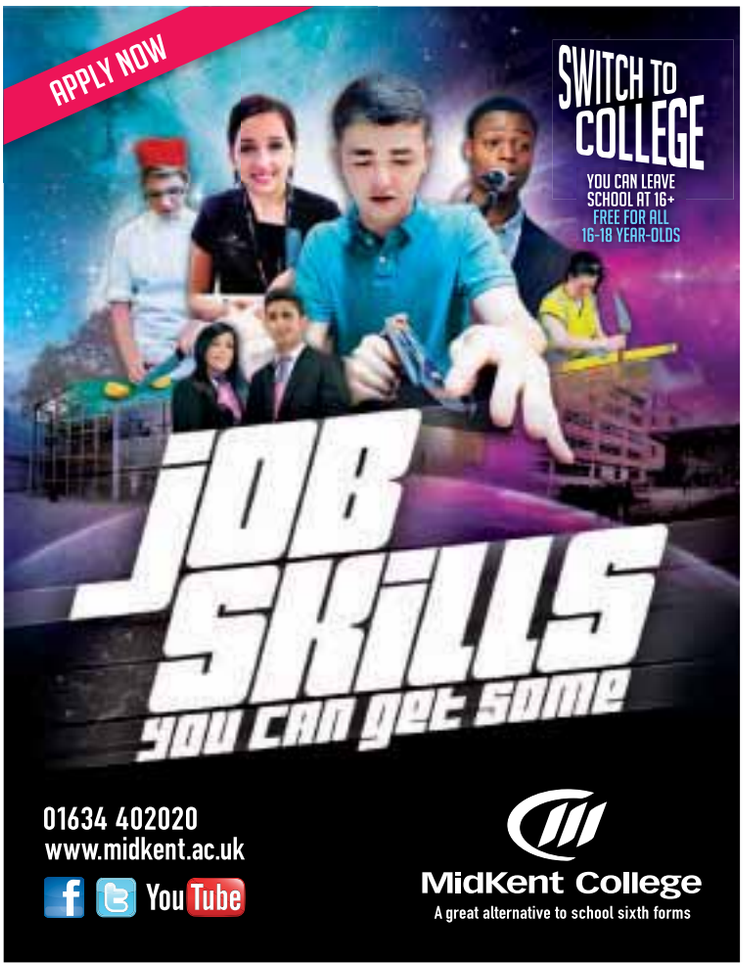
Applications for courses can also be submitted online. For details call North West Kent College on 0800 074 1447 or log-on to www.nwkcollege.ac.uk.

Learning how to fight fires at leading airport

SEVEN students from Bromley College spent three days at Biggin Hill Airport recently, with staff of the airport's high-tech rescue and firefighting service, which was opened last year.

As part of their studies, they were introduced to the science of fires and firefighting, with some practical work on hose-running and breathing apparatus.

The students are on a two-year level three course in public services at the college.





PLANS: How the new-look sixth form academy will look when it opens in April 2015

Academy delight after funding gets approval

HARTSDOWN Academy has secured a £1.2million grant to build a new sixth form studies centre at its site in Margate.

The financial injection is seen as a huge boost after it missed out on securing major redevelopment funds as a result of the Government's squeeze on spending.

The Coalition's first spending review saw it agonisingly miss out on the Building Schools for the Future programme and futher building projects have also been turned down because of funding restrictions.

But now the Education Funding Agency has given it the nod for the cash which will allow work to begin this summer.

Planning permission has already been granted and tailor-made architect designs are already in place.

If all goes to plan, it will be completed by March 2015.

Delighted head teacher Andy Somers said it will "re-energise learning for the next generation of sixth formers in the town".

Mr Somers said: "This will be something special, a new two-storey centre to the front and side of the existing main building. It will change the appearance of our college frontage quite dramatically.

"It is a bespoke design that follows consultation with architects and it will be individual."

And it comes as a welcome relief after years of disappointment.

Mr Somers said: "Our philosophy was just to get on with it. Hartsdown is all about the students and we redoubled our efforts to make sure they had the very best learning experience, despite being in older buildings compared to some schools.

"Our sixth form is expanding with more students than ever moving on to university, training and jobs. Our success at GCSE and A Level - and our good with outstanding features Ofsted inspection - is making it an increasingly popular choice for students and the new centre will give us much more space, resources and the space to embrace even more courses."

It comes as all schools expect increasing demand for sixth form facilities as the school leaving age is raised, in stages, to 18.

Head of school Tony Davies said: "This is a huge boost following the disappointment of the BSF programme but we never gave up and a lot of people have given us energetic support to get improvements at Hartsdown.

"They include Sir Roger Gale, Laura Sandys, Kent County Council, Margate Charter Trustees, former mayors Iris Johnston, Mick Tomlinson and Will Scobie, and our governors. We are very grateful to them all and I am sure they are just as delighted as we are.

"This is a key moment for Hartsdown and the future of Margate. We have already been awarded Sport England funding for the development of an all-weather 3G floodlit soccer pitch for the school and the community, and work also starts on that this summer."

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good-news story, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817000.

KITA goes live to boost students' skills

THE University of Kent is one of three universities to join forces with Kent Connects - a public sector technology partnership which links all of Kent's councils with the emergency services and NHS - to help promote IT innovation and knowledge transfer across the county.

Launched at the university's Canterbury campus, the Kent IT Alliance (KITA) will support collaboration and provide opportunities for knowledge transfer, joint funding, research and development, and the exchange of innovative practices through the use of technology.

KITA will also offer students from the universities of Kent, Greenwich and Canterbury Christ Church the opportunity to undertake IT placements and student projects for Kent Connects' organisations.

Students will have an opportunity to work on projects such as developing apps for mobile devices, cybercrime, and information governance. Placements will be available for up to one year.

Carol Patrick, head of ICT partnerships for Kent Connects said: "Technology changes so quickly we want to make sure we keep abreast of the latest thinking and skills. Young people will bring vibrancy to the work we do."

Lord Sugar's investment in 'fired' apprentice catapults Ma's business into big time

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

WHEN Lord Sugar turned to Susan Ma during the final stages of the 2011 series of The Apprentice and uttered the phrase 'you're fired', the 21-year-old saw her dreams of success flattened.

But she dusted herself down and pushed ahead with her own business plan.

And just months later Lord Sugar was tapping her on the shoulder and offering a £200,000 investment to be partners.

Suddenly, coming third in the TV show didn't seem such a disappointment.

Now 24, Miss Ma's Tropic Skin Care range is proving a hit, and last week she was at the Hilton Hotel in Maidstone in a bid to push her "social selling" project.

She told Kos: "I think Lord Sugar does The Apprentice, not for the money or the fame; he does it to actually inspire the nation.

"To get people out there starting up their own businesses and to inspire the entrepreneurial flair we have in all of us."

The pair launched their new brand just three months ago.

Lord Sugar took to the BBC spin-off show You're Hired to tell of the "synergy" between himself and Miss Ma and expressed a desire to work with her in the future.

She said: "During the show none of us got to have a conversation with Lord Sugar really, aside from being in the boardroom. And there was a long period where we had finished filming and before it was aired.

"We finally met again at the after-party and he came up to me, tapped me on the shoulder and said 'here is my business card, I want you to come to my office and bring your products and your business plan'.

"My business had grown quite quickly by that point.

"So I went to his office, showed him the products and he went off and showed some people and his wife.

"A couple of weeks later he invited me back and said 'my wife really likes your product and your business plan is sound, how much do you want for 50 per cent of your business?"



PARTNERS: Lord Sugar was so impressed with Susan Ma's business plan that he invested £200,000

Miss Ma asked for £200,000.

"He just said 'done'," she remembers. "It was so quick, and a few days later there was a contract.

"When Lord Sugar invested, we looked for a route to market. We looked at the potential of putting our products in shops like Superdrug and such like, but it didn't really go with the brand: we are a niche, natural brand and all of our products are handmade as well.

"So what we decided to do was create an opportunity for ambassadors to join us, endorse the products, receive free training and sell the products through our success plan."

Miss Ma has been in business since she was 15, when she started selling home-made body scrubs in jam jars at Greenwich Market.

But now with Lord Sugar and 700 Tropic Skin Care ambassadors already on her team, the entrepreneur wants to help others become more business minded.

But does the popular BBC show mirror the world of business she now operates within?

She said: "It's not entirely realistic. The Apprentice can give the illusion a business is very easy to run; that you can just start a product, market it, sell it and make money by the end of the day.

"But obviously what you don't see is that everything has been organised for you behind the scenes. It takes months of preparation by the people who organise The Apprentice to get it sorted.

"I remember we came up with a biscuit on one task, and by the afternoon we were there in the factory making prototypes and in the evening we were making banners, graphic designs, and the next day we had a finalised product that we could pitch and sell to the supermarket.

"That is never going to happen in real life... I wish it was that easy.

"It's what could happen in real life, but massively condensed and with an unlimited budget. It gives you a flavour of what will happen, but over a long period of time."

New £160m strategy boost for farmers' futures

A MASSIVE £160 million injection to help the UK's agriculture industry become a world leader in science and technology has been welcomed by the county's farmers.

The Agricultural Technologies Strategy is designed to deliver sustainable, healthy and affordable food for future generations. And it aims to ensure everyone in the production chain – from farmers, to retailers to shoppers – will benefit.

With breakthroughs in nutrition, informatics, satellite imaging, remote sensing, meteorology and precision farming the Government has recognised agriculture is one of the world's fastest growing sectors.

To get the ball rolling on the new strategy, a £160 million government investment in developing cutting-edge technologies has been announced.

Pat Crawford, spokesman for Hadlow College, which specialises in agriculture, issued a note of caution, however. She said: "The objectives outlined in the strategy are crucially important in both economic and social terms but the £160 million investment won't go far without very careful management control.

"Global demand for food is rising at an alarming rate and the UK must aim to be a world leader in finding solutions and applying techniques that will help to address food security issues.

"Education and training will be crucially important if the strategy is to produce long-term accumulative benefits."

Rob Fraser, professor of agricultural economics, at the University of Kent, said: "I think this ties up neatly with the environment minister Owen Patterson's recent news about the importance of keeping the political door open to using technology.

"It can be used to develop genetically modified food as a potential solution both to food security problems and to environmental conservation."

The National Farmers' Union in Kent said it is good news for the county's many farms with new methods to improve efficiency.

NFU president Peter Kendall said: "The strategy resonates strongly with existing developments and initiatives involving many food, farming and research organisations..

The agri-food supply chain, from agriculture to final retailing and catering, is estimated to contribute £96 billion to the nation's economy and employ some 3.8 million people.

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Revenues add up once more for rail service

EUROSTAR's financial fortunes remain on track after a strong growth in both passenger numbers and sales revenues in the first half of 2013.

In the first six months of the year, passenger numbers rose by two per cent year-on-year to 4.9 million from 4.8 million in 2012.

Sales revenues grew by seven per cent in the first half of the year to £453 million from £425 million in the same period last year.

£2m park open for business in Aylesham

THE RIBBON has been cut at the opening of the Aylesham Business Park, which it is hoped will lead to the creation of much-needed jobs in the former coal mining area.

The £2m project, offering 2,500sq-ft of space and close to the A2, is a development of workshops and 17 fully-serviced offices, targeted at start-up businesses and small enterprises looking to grow.

Hotel secures events and conferences award

ASHFORD International Hotel has scooped a top award for its conference and event facilities.

The hotel, owned by QHotels, has secured a VenueVerdict Gold Standard Accreditation.

Based on the findings of a independent market research agency, it looks at how likely delegates and guests would recommend a venue.

Hotal manager Deirdre Billing said she and her staff were "very proud".

BA signs Manston fuel deal for Airbus 380

AIR charter broker Air Partner has signed a contract with British Airways to fuel the airline's two new super aircraft during their time at Manston.

The Airbus 380 is already at the Thanet site, while the Boeing 787 Dreamliner will arrive later this year.

After both craft finish their training programmes, it will continue to fuel the B787.

Ticket to social media success at top show

FREE social media workshops will be on the menu at the Sevenoaks Business Show in October.

Taking place on a vintage double-decker bus, it will pick up and drop off delegates attending the show at the Plaza Suite at the Stag Theatre every 40 minutes.

The event takes place on October 11 and will be opened by business minister Michael Fallon.

Learn more about how to deal with council

DO YOU trade with Medway Council - or want to? Then this event could be for you.

Doing Business with Medway Council takes place at the Corn Exchange in Rochester on July 26 from 8.30am to noon.

As part of the event, there will be a free business master-class from the internationally recognised Professor Andrew Fearne, head of the Kent Business School.

Homes & Gardens



THE FUCHSIA'S BRIGHT: Hardy varieties of fuchsia are impervious to cold nights and torrential rains

Patience a virtue greatly rewarded when gardening

GARDENING WITH THE EXPERT
BY JEREMY SHIRLEY

PROVERB of the month: August sunshine and bright evenings ripens the grapes.

How welcome these hot sunny days have been, received by gardeners (such as us) whose sweet peas grew little more than 12 inches in the cold and rain of last year, but now stand at close to five-feet and are a riot of colour. Everything is such an improvement on last year.

Is the future the fuchsia?

The fuchsia is such a versatile and long-lived plant for colour right up until November.

We have them in flower until after Christmas or the first hard frost. They are impervious to cold nights and torrential rains, too.

The Magellanica species are excellent and, like all fuchsias, now is the ideal time for planting.

Even the so-called non-hardy, the exhibition and show fuchsias, can be left out ready to flush into growth the next year.

This is the trick; after the foliage has died down following the first frost, lift them and replant straight away, around nine inches deeper than the original root ball, stems and all.

Then trim back the remaining old growth to about 10 inches and forget them.

Your patience will be rewarded in late May next year, when shoots will appear from the ground. Since they are acclimatised, tender non-hardy fuchsias will grow away fast.

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PERFECT PICK-ME-UP: These tamarillo tree tomatoes produce a lovely fruit that adds fantastic taste to salads, but also adds a zing to sorbets and drinks

Hanging baskets and standard fuchsias are a joy, believe me.

Another thing to bring joy to your garden could be growing citrus trees, bird of paradise plants, early strawberries or tomatoes... and it is so easy.

A good one to start with are tamarillo tree tomatoes. They produce a lovely fruit the size of a buck egg which can retail for around 90p each. This versatile fruit is good in sorbets and drinks, as well as salads.

Another must is the Jacques Amand catalogue, from the flower bulb specialists.

I suggest getting your hands on this glorious catalogue of treasures.

I first purchased a copy from Jacques Amand's late father in 1956, and grew pots of iris reticulata, richly perfumed cheerfulness narcissi, hyacinths and snowdrops.

Did you know you can eat your flowers?

Seriously it's true – you can crystallize your flowers for cake decorations.

My late mother used to crystallize violets, fuchsias, rose petals, fruit blossoms, pansies and violas.

How did she do it? You need to pre-heat the oven to around 150C. Lightly whisk one egg white and weigh out 75 grams of caster sugar.

Spread the sugar on a baking tray and dry in the oven, remove and allow to cool. Carefully brush the flowers all over with the egg white.

Sprinkle the sugar over the surface of the flowers and carefully shake off the surplus.

You will then need to leave them to dry in a warm place overnight on greaseproof paper. To preserve them keep in an air-tight tin. They are an easy decoration for cakes or desserts for friends and family.

Emperor chrysanthemums and indicum

Continued on page 49

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Continued from page 47

chrysanthemums can be used fresh from the plant for food garnishing to that end.

I learned this handy tip from Shing, a Chinese lady I knew who lived in Folkestone. She introduced me to the Japanese Annual Festival of Happiness to celebrate chrysanthemums, a flower I have grown and sold since the early 1960s.

Vegetable planting now...

Although you may not think it, you can still continue with sowing and planting including, of course, pot-grown fruits – especially vines.

Globe artichokes and cardoon plants can be set in the ground now. I have found these to be really winter hardy and not so commonly available.

During the current hot weather, I found myself with a surplus of calabrees and our rainbow cauliflowers have turned a deep purple, bright orange and emerald green.

Rather than let them blow to seed and go to waste, I cut them off and where appropriate my wife made lots of cauliflower cheese which is now in the deep freeze for winter use.

Do the same – do not let your surplus fruit and veg go to waste. Tomatos are also in great supply, which my wife cuts and grills, and also freezes.

When you want to use them all you have to do it let them defrost overnight and re-grill.

They taste just as though they had been picked and are rich in lycupene which is said to destroy cancer cells, as does pure grape juice and mung beans.

■ **Jeremy Shirley developed Challock's Victoriana Nursery Gardens; you can visit www.victorianaanursery.co.uk to find out more.**



HIDDEN PLEASURES: Chrysanthemums can be used fresh from the plant for food garnishing

Celebrating 50 years

JEREMY Shirley's Victoriana Nursery Gardens are this year celebrating their 50th anniversary.

Mr Shirley and his wife Jo arrived in Challock on July 17, 1963, and purchased a run-down smallholding, then began the Kent County Nursery business. It grew from having a 16-year-old employee to around 20 staff by autumn 1968.

In 1985, the couple's son Stephen joined the business after leaving school and now heads up the team with his wife Serena, who joined in 2004. The business made a short move and name change in 1994, to become Victoriana Nursery Gardens as it better known today.

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Subtle changes to make your garden more appealing

Add finishing touches with new fixtures and fittings

WITH temperatures soaring and spaces limited at the beach, it could be the chance you have been waiting for to spend time on improving your garden.

With the majority of plants already bedded in, you probably don't need to overhaul the greenery, but there might be a host of improvements you could make from a fixtures and fittings point of view.

In a day you could easily erect a rose arch, install a corner arbour or a raised bed to add the finishing touches to your garden space and if your weekends are sacred there is the August Bank Holiday to take advantage of in a month's time.

Adding an arch is a perfect way to add a focal point to your garden. It can transform a uniformly flat space, add life to an ordinary path, or frame a favourite feature.

Furthermore it is a great place to grow attractive climbers such as roses or clematis.

Things to consider include the lines of sight in your garden; do you want it to complement or contrast other objects, and do you want it to be flat, pitched or curved?

Having built your arch you will need somewhere beautiful to sit to admire it which is where a corner arbour comes in handy.

Ideal for a corner plot it provides a neat hideaway to sit and relax, and like the arch can act as a great climber for plants.

Although vegetable planting is perceived as a spring activity, there are still plenty of things to be seeded in the coming months which is where a raised bed comes into its own.

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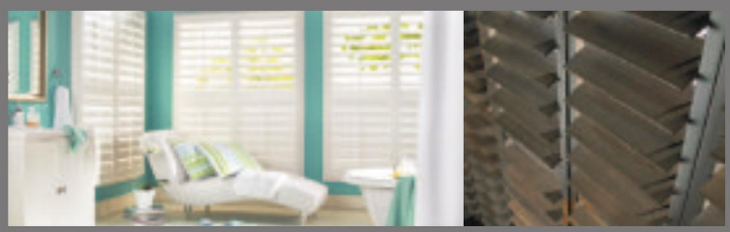


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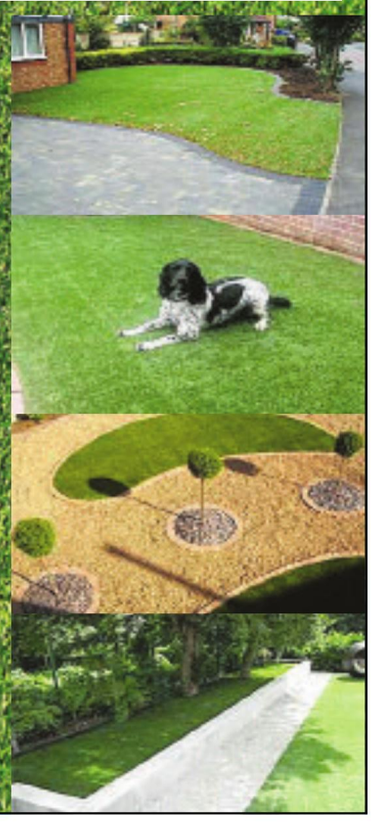
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First GEAR MOTORING NEWS

- Fiat 500L builds up some Trekking muscle
- Mazda MX-5 a byword for sporting reliability
- Peugeot's 2008 big hit with future buyers



Renault give Mégane big boot in right direction with Sport Tourer

Powered by motors.co.uk

Driving

drive24.co.uk

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk



PREVIEW

CITROEN C4 PICASSO

Price: from £17,500
Driving appeal: Not yet driven
Image: ★★★★
Space: ★★★★★
Value: ★★★★
Running costs: ★★★★
Reliability: ★★★★
How green?: ★★★★
Best rival: Ford C-Max

Picasso's Cubism goes further

ASKED what car he or she drives, a Citroën Picasso driver might simply reply "a Picasso".

It's a sign that the French marque's highly successful MPV series has almost become a brand in its own right, an impression that will deepen soon with the arrival of an all-new C4 – the mainstay model in the Picasso line-up.

The standard five-seater is due in showrooms within weeks, and the seven-seat Grand C4 arrives around the turn of the year.

The headline feature on both is a sleek eye-catching design replacing the rather more quirky lines of their predecessors; there's a hint of the wrap-around front end styling that attracted so much praise for the Range Rover Evoque and both cars are more obviously sisters this time around.

Citroën says the five-seat model will also be the first compact MPV with road tax-exempt CO2 emissions of less than 100g/km.

And it will deliver a huge cabin within a relatively compact 4.43m-long by 1.83m-wide exterior – it's actually 40mm shorter than its predecessor – while also including the biggest boot in its class at 537 litres.

And yet the car doesn't suffer from a boxy body to accommodate all its obvious space and practicality; in fact, smooth and rounded lines contribute to excellent aerodynamics that boost the new line-up's green credentials.

The previous car attracted some criticism for being prone to that common MPV failing, a rolling gait when tackling a corner, but Citroën says it has addressed that and ensured a better balance between comfort and road holding, no doubt helped by the new platform's wider track and longer wheelbase.

As with the previous car, there is the capability to flood the glassy cabin with even more light, courtesy of a panoramic screen and large glass roof totalling 5.3sq m.

For those who really want to travel first class, there is also a Lounge Pack, delivering massage seats in the front, a 'Relax' seat that lets the front passenger stretch out their legs and a Relax headrest on all seats, for comforting neck support.

There's also a futuristic dashboard featuring two screens: a seven-inch touchpad for in-car functions such as dual-zone air con, navigation, audio, telephone and driving aids; and a high-definition 12-inch for essential driving information from the sat nav and driving aids.

But the really good news is this futuristic package comes with lower running costs too, helped by an impressive 140-kilo weight-saving compared with the old car – that's equivalent to more than 22-stone or two adults of average weight.

This has been achieved by judicious use of aluminium and composite materials and, combined with improved and largely diesel powertrains, has driven CO2 emissions down by an average of 30g/km compared to the old model.





DON'T LIKE

...waiting for the seven-seater. British buyers of midi-size MPVs like the C4 Picasso prefer the option of seven seats, even if they mostly use five.

NOT SURE

...the Citroën will match the interior quality of key rivals, but we shall see. The car looks sharp on styling and that should threaten rival 'boxes'.

REALLY LIKE

...look of the car. An MPV is surely the worst brief to be thrown at a car designer, but Citroën has come up with an eye-catcher.



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It's an estate – but whisper it...

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

DESCRIBING a car as an 'estate' could spark a ferocious row in the House of Commons.

One can imagine the Rt Honourable member for Grimesdale complaining this is a posh term for cars used on a country estate – a place his gritty, 'ard-working constituents can only dream about owning.

However, on the opposite side of the chamber, the Rt Honourable member for Cotswolds-on-the-Water might sniff: "Mr Speaker, this is a blue-collar term for a motor car that people use to carry their tools and paint, with (pause for shock) ladders on the top."

No wonder then that most manufacturers have distanced themselves from the traditional double-edged term 'estate' – permutations of sport and tourer being particularly popular.

But if you are not to be seen as mealy-mouthed or even devious, it's important to style and equip it to merit such flashy alternative labels, and Renault have done just that with the Mégane Sport Tourer (from £17,350).

Of course, with a variety of petrol and diesel engines offered, some suit the 'sport' bit better than others, but the car certainly looks racy and may well be the most attractive estate car – to use that divisive term – in a 'C' market segment also inhabited by the likes of the Ford Focus, Vauxhall Astra and VW Golf.

Cleverly, this styling élan does not cost practicality either: not only is there more room for passengers in the back than in the five-door hatchback Mégane, but the Sport Tourer is also one of the most capacious load-luggers in its class and certainly better than several rivals also trying to blend space with grace.

In fact, with a 524-litre boot and total cargo area of 1,600 litres, the car even challenges models in the bigger D segment: the frumpy VW Passat doesn't exactly blow the Renault away with 603 and 1,731 respectively, while the big and flashy Vauxhall Insignia Sports Tourer is embarrassed, with just 500 and 1,530. And though the current Mégane range has been around since 2009, it had a significant facelift last year, bringing thoroughly modern powertrains and eco upgrades as well as smarter cosmetics.

The three Stop & Start units stand out: 1.2 TCe 115 petrol, and 1.5 dCi 110 and 1.6 dCi 130 diesels – the last being that in the top spec GT Line Tom Tom model tested here and claimed to be the most powerful yet frugal engine of its size.

Admittedly, I didn't get close to the official combined cycle consumption figure of 70.6mpg, because I was busy enjoying the lively performance – 0-62mph in 10.1 seconds.

That's not bad for a so-called utility car, though it was not so much the power on tap that impressed, but the smooth delivery.

The current generation Mégane also suffers little of the handling and steering wooliness of its predecessor. Cornering feels assured, without losing the smooth ride that is a feature of most Gallic cars, though the Mégane is sometimes unsettled by flaky rural roads.

My only reservation is the fussy dashboard; someone has tried hard to make a big impression, but it doesn't really work.

However, there is tons of equipment even on standard models, and our GT Line included the easy to use TomTom sat nav – naturally – plus LED running lights, parking camera with rear parking sensors and top notch sound system.

The range also now comes with Renault 4+ programme - four-year/100,000 mile warranty, free routine servicing for four years/48,000 miles, four years' roadside cover and up to four years' finance – a concession to the five and even seven years' cover offered by several rivals.

RENAULT MEGANE SPORT TOURER GT LINE TOMTOM DCI 130: £24,945



BIGGER BY DESIGN: Renault's new stylish Mégane Sport Tourer delivers on not only great looks, but also boasts plenty of luggage space and also packs a punch on the road

Driving appeal:	★★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★★
Road tax:	£20 (zero year one)

Best rival:
Vauxhall Astra Sports Tourer

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First GEAR

MOTORING NEWS



Trekking star? It's a Fiat 500

FIAT launches a beefed up version of its 500L mini-MPV in September.

The Italian marque says the Trekking (from £17,095) is as much at home in the great outdoors as on city streets, thanks to rugged exterior trimming, raised ride height, all-season tyres, and a clever Traction+ system that gives the front wheels additional grip and control in difficult conditions.



Reliability as MX-5 standard

WHICH? has declared the Mazda MX-5 is the UK's most reliable new sports car.

The consumer watchdog's latest car survey revealed that the Japanese roadster had the lowest number of faults and incurred no annual repair costs in its first three years, while the driving experience, even on older models, could pep you up like "a double espresso".



All-new 2008 charming buy

PEUGEOT has revealed its all-new rugged little 2008 crossover (£12,995) built up heavy demand ahead of its recent arrival in showrooms – advance orders hit 1,300 and smashed the French marque's forecast.

Diesel versions attracted two-thirds of sales and high spec models fitted with Grip Control – for extra traction – are also high on consumer hit lists.

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO_2 emissions: 324 - 88g/km.

Available on selected models only, at participating retailers. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers or contact your local Vauxhall retailer for details. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee / Indemnity may be required. Finance supplied by either Vauxhall Motor Finance RH1 1SR or Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. **Vauxhall Deposit Contribution excludes ADAM, Mokka, Cascada and New Insignia models. †24-60 month term, excluding ADAM models (24-48 month term). Offer will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1- 24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded. Vauxhall Lifetime warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. ^ Customer deposit shown after deduction of Vauxhall contribution. Offer(s) available on orders or registrations before 1 October 2013. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received. Official Government test Environmental Data. Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

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The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site.
We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.
The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff

Housekeeper (Outpatient Department)

Part time – 15 hrs per week
5am – 8am or 7pm – 10pm

Qualifications
Evidence of Housekeeping/hotel services experience
Excellent communication skills
Able to work independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team
Flexibility

To discuss this opportunity and benefits or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Debbie Young, Hotel Services Manager, 01843 234555 ext. 63443

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Private Hospital, 2nd Floor, Atina House, Bench Street, Dover, Kent, CT16 1JH
Telephone: 01304 245951 Fax: 01304 207320
E-mail: jo.edwards@spencerhospitals.com

Alternatively you can download an application form and job description from our website www.spencerprivatehospitals.com

Closing date for applications Friday 9 August 2013

The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer
This position is subject to a Data & Barring Service Disclosure check

Account Manager
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The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff.

BOOKINGS ADMINISTRATOR (Dover)

3 days per week
Qualifications: Maths and English (GCSE or equivalent)
2 years' experience working in an administration environment
IT skills, E-Mail, Internet

WEEKEND WARD CLERK (Margate)

15 hrs per week – some annual leave cover will be required weekdays
Qualifications: Maths and English (GCSE or equivalent)
2 years' experience working in an administration environment
IT skills, E-Mail, Internet

To discuss these opportunities and benefits or to arrange an informal visit please contact either:
Paul Parish – Business Office Manager
or
Julie Pain – Deputy Business Office Manager
01304 245958 or 01843 234555

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards
East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Private Hospital
2nd Floor, Atina House, Bench Street
Dover Kent CT16 1JH
Telephone: 01304 245951 Fax: 01304 207320
E-mail: jo.edwards@spencerhospitals.com
Alternatively you can download an application form and job description from our website www.spencerprivatehospitals.com

Closing date for applications Friday 2 Aug 2013

The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer
These positions are subject to a Data & Barring Service Disclosure check

To place your notice here call the Kent Public Notice team on
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Valence
www.valenceschool.com

Westerham Road, Westerham, Kent TN16 1QN Tel: 07896905690
e-mail: adennett@valence.kent.sch.uk; www.valenceschool.com

STUDENT SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

Full Time and Part Time hours available
(from 20 hours up to 43 per week),
Working Term Time Only, Initially one year fixed term contract.
Student Support Assistants are responsible for enabling students to learn, promoting their independence and helping them achieve.
Valence is looking for committed Student Support Assistants.
The job is carried out in classrooms and in the residential setting and involves supporting students' communication, providing physical management and personal care.
Successful applicants will have a relevant Level 3 qualification or be supported to complete the Children's Workforce Diploma at Level 3.
Kent Scheme Band 3 (pro-rata)
£14,815 full time equivalent (£7.68 per hour) plus final salary pension

WAKING NIGHT STUDENT SUPPORT ASSISTANT

(Weekdays and Open Weekends)
Part Time hours, Term Time Only, Initially one year fixed term contract
Shifts are 8pm until 8am during the week
And 9pm until 9am on the 16 open weekends. The weekends are during Term Time in which the School is open to give respite to families.
This post involves working waking nights, and supporting students with their personal care needs over the night. Nights available may change.
Successful applicants will be expected to complete the Children's Workforce Diploma at Level 3.
Kent Scheme Band 3 (pro-rata)
£14,815 full time equivalent (£7.68 per hour)
plus unsocial hours allowance and final salary pension

Valence School is a Kent County Council all age residential and day school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties. Valence School is a supportive environment and a rewarding place to work. Every member of staff participates in enabling the students to learn and to aspire to achieve meaningful independence.

Valence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every student. We expect all staff to share our commitment. The successful applicants will require an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Check.

For further information and an application form, please contact HR Department.
Previous applicants need not apply.

Please note the closing date for applications is 15 August 2013
Interviews will be held on either 5 or 6 September 2013.

WINDMILL LODGE

We require full-time

Support Workers

35 hours per week excluding sleeping in duties when required. To work in a residential care home for adults with a learning disability.
Applicants must have some experience in care work or preferably have (NVQ 2 or 3) experience and training in care work would be an advantage.
They must be mature, caring, and committed with a kind, supportive attitude.

For all enquiries
26 Springhead Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 9QY
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Closing date 29th July 2013 for received applications

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LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING ACT 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE

Newultra Limited has applied to Medway Council for the grant of a new Premises Licence for the Premises to be known as Villagio, Unit 2, Dickens World, Leviathan Way, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4LL.

The following licensable activities are proposed:

The sale of alcohol and late night refreshment:

10:00 - 00:00	Monday to Saturday
10:00 - 23:30	Sunday
10:00 - 02:30	New Year's Eve

Anyone wishing to make a representation must do so in writing by **24 August 2013** to the following address: Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR

To view a copy of the application please contact the council on 01634 337 107 or 01634 337 108.

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application. A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5,000.00.

LICENSING ACT 2003 Notice of Application for Grant of a Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Portuguese Grill House Ltd has applied to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for the grant of a Premises Licence in respect of premises known as **Portuguese Grill House, 18 Averbury Avenue, Tonbridge, TN9 1TN.**

The application seeks the licence in respect of the following:

• The sale of alcohol – Mon to Sat 09:00 – 23:00 & Sun 09:00 – 22:30 • The provision of regulated entertainment (Live Music & Recorded Music) – Fri & Sat 18:00 – 23:00

Details of the register of record of the application can be viewed at the Tonbridge and Malling Council Offices (Licensing Dept), Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling during normal hours.

Any representations from interested parties or responsible authorities must be made in writing to the Council by

19th AUGUST 2013

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction is a fine not exceeding £5000.

PUBLIC NOTICE Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 Part III Schedule 4 Paragraph 9

STREET TRADING: TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL hereby give notice pursuant to Paragraph 2 of Schedule 4 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 that on **24 July 2013** that FULL COUNCIL passed the following resolution of which appears below.

Resolution

That the following streets, or parts of streets, in Tunbridge Wells be designated as consent streets, in accordance with Schedule 4, Paragraph 9 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982: a) Calverley Road between its junctions with Mount Pleasant Road and Camden Road and b) Camden Road, between its junctions with Quarry Road and Garden Road with effect from **23 August 2013.**

Dated **27 July 2013**

Head of Environment & Street Scene
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS

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PLANNING

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010, PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREA) ACT 1990 - SECTION 67.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13(3) AND 13(4) OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT.

Proposed development at LAND SOUTH OF KENT INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY, NEWNHAM PARK, MAIDSTONE, KENT.

I give notice that Maidstone Medical Campus Limited

has applied to the MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

For outline planning permission for the development of a medical campus comprising up to 98,000sqm of additional floorspace (including additional hospital facilities, clinics, consultation rooms and a rehabilitation centre (classes C2/D1); education and training facilities with residential accomodation (class C2/D1); keyworker accommodation for nurses and doctors (class C3); pathology laboratories (class B1); business uses (class B1); ancillary retail services (class A1, A2, A3)); and up to 116 class C2 neuro-rehabilitation accommodation units; internal roads and car parks, including car park for residents of Gidds Pond Cottages; hard and soft landscaping including creation of new woodland area with access for consideration and all other matters reserved for future consideration.

And that the application is accompanied by an environmental statement. The proposed development would affect the setting of a listed building, is a major development as defined in Article 2 (1) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2010 and does not accord with the provisions of the Development Plan in force in the Borough of Maidstone.

Application Reference **MA/13/1163.**

Members of the public may inspect copies of the application and environmental statement on the Council's website via **www.maidstone.gov.uk** or at our Reception at the address below during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.30pm, Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm) excluding Bank Holidays.

Members of the public may obtain copies of the environmental statement from Mr J. Buckwell, DHA Planning, Eclipse House, Eclipse Park, Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone, Kent ME14 3EN so long as stocks last, at a charge of £300 for a paper copy (with appendices) £50 (without appendices) and £25 for a full CD copy.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should do so via the link on the Council's website www.maidstone.gov.uk or write to the Council, quoting reference MA/13/1163, at:-

Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ

by **12th August 2013**

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

PLANNING

Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//13/01151/FUL: 26 St Martin's Hill, Canterbury, CT1 1PP Application to regularise and allow for the retention of decking and balcony. **Applicant: Ms Davies** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/01195/ADV: 66 High Street, Whitstable, CT5 1BB Advertisement consent for the erection of 45cm x 55cm x 5cm hand carved oak hanging sign on a cast iron bracket. Down light illumination of shop fascia board. Hand painted text and symbols on first floor render. **Applicant: Mr M McWilliam** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/01267/FUL: Sandybank Farm, Old Tree Road, Hoath, CT3 4LE Erection of detached bungalow. **Applicant: Miss Crystal Ford** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01271/FUL: 20 High Street, Whitstable, CT5 1BQ Replacement windows to front elevation and change of use of upper storeys to residential. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Hodgson** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01292/FUL: Meadowbrook Barn, Church Lane, Hoath, CT3 4EB Proposed construction of new double garage and haystore, following demolition of existing garage and log store. **Applicant: Ms K Jenkins** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01299/FUL: 18 Brunswick Square, Herne Bay, CT6 5QF Replacement of existing aluminium windows with double glazed timber sliding sash windows on front elevation. **Applicant: Ms Jacqueline Sewell** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01314/FUL: Honey Hill Farm, 11 Honey Hill, Blean, CT2 9JP Refurbishment and conversion of former agricultural buildings to form two dwellings including demolition of milking shed. **Applicant: Mr M Kay** Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.
CA//13/01315/LB: Honey Hill Farm, 11 Honey Hill, Blean, CT2 9JP Refurbishment and conversion of former agricultural buildings to form two dwellings including demolition of milking shed. **Applicant: Mr M Kay** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/01320/FUL: 62 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ Change of use from office to residential dwelling with associated internal alterations. **Applicant: Clague Architects** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/01326/FUL: Eastwell, The Drive, Chestfield, CT5 3NU Removal of existing conservatory and construction of two-storey extension. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Connelly** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01329/LB: 62 Burgate, Canterbury, CT1 2HJ Change of use from office to residential dwelling with associated internal alterations. **Applicant: Clague Architects** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/01334/FUL: 5 Chapel Lane, Sturry, CT2 0AH Incorporation of existing timber outbuilding into kitchen area with external alterations. **Applicant: Mrs Jennifer Davey** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/01336/FUL: Land at Woodside House, London Road, Harbledown, CT2 9AX Erection of detached dwelling with associated parking and access. (Revised Scheme). **Applicant: Lockharts Sheds** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01341/LB: 5 Chapel Lane, Sturry, CT2 0AH Incorporation of existing timber outbuilding into kitchen area with external alterations. **Applicant: Mrs Jennifer Davey** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/01345/FUL: 29 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3AL Loft conversion including dormer to rear roofslope. **Applicant: Burgess Hodgson** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01348/LB: The Swan Inn, High Street, Sturry, CT2 0BD The installation of CCTV security cameras on The Swan Inn. **Applicant: Augustus Moon** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/01354/FUL: 10 Orchard Street, Canterbury, CT2 8AP Proposed rear extension. **Applicant: Ms A Slidders** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/01355/LB: 10 Orchard Street, Canterbury, CT2 8AP Proposed rear extension **Applicant: Ms A Slidders** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/01356/FUL: The Square, 4 Rattington Street, Chartham Two storey extension and internal alterations. **Applicant: Mr R Payne** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//13/01358/LB: 4 The Square, Rattington Street, Chartham, CT4 7JG Two-storey extension and internal alterations **Applicant: Mr R Payne** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/01359/FUL: Escombe House, The Street, Ickham, CT3 1QT Extensions and alterations, including demolitions. **Applicant: Ms H Crowder** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/01360/LB: Escombe House, The Street, Ickham, CT3 1QT Extensions and alterations, including demolitions. **Applicant: Ms H Crowder** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/01366/LB: 17 Love Lane, Canterbury, CT1 1TZ Replacement of solid wood front door with a single glazed half moon panel to a Georgian style six panelled solid wood door. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Vincent** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//13/01371/VAR: 16-18 Oxford Street, Whitstable Removal of condition 08 (rear fire exit gate/door for emergencies only) of planning permission CA/10/01526/FUL for the change of use of existing building from bingo club (D2 Use Class) to public house (A4 Use Class). **Applicant: JD Wetherspoon PLC** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01374/VAR: 16-18 Oxford Street, Whitstable, CT5 1DD Removal of condition 06 (fire exit gate for emergencies only) of permission CA/12/00289/VAR for the Retention of development without compliance with condition 02 (approved drawings); alterations in respect of disabled access and siting of plant and machinery and condition 06 (materials) of planning permission CA/10/01526/FUL **Applicant: JD Wetherspoon PLC** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01375/FUL: 28 Clifton Road, Whitstable, CT5 1DQ Replacement of single glazed timber sashes with double glazed timber sashes into existing box frames to front elevation. **Applicant: Mrs Thomas** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01376/CAC Broadway Green Farm, Broadway, Petham, CT4 5RX Conservation area consent for the demolition of Atcost Barn to enable construction of new house within volume of the existing barn. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Cammegh** Reason: Demolition of unlisted building in conservation area.
CA//13/01378/FUL: 4 Stream Walk, Whitstable, CT5 1HJ Installation of photovoltaic panels on rear roof slope. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs B Smith** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//13/01385/LB: April Cottage, Cherville Lane, Bramling, Ickham, CT3 1LZ Replacement windows to a listed building. **Applicant: Dr T Adams** Reason: Work to a listed building.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.management@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 19 August 2013.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 26 July 2013

To advertise in this section 01303 817056

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/12/0152/S - LITTLE CLOCK HOUSE, GEORGE STREET, HUNTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0RE - An application to remove conditions 1 and 2 and vary conditions 3 and 4 of appeal decision dated 29th November 1995 in order to allow permanent unrestricted occupancy by gypsies and travellers and allow the stationing of five caravans (including one tourer) and the parking of four commercial vehicles. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/0599/S - 62, WEST STREET, HARRIETSHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1HU - Change of use from retail/post office to residential. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1060/N - NIMBUS, BIMBURY LANE, STOCKBURY, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT, ME9 7QT - Change of use of land to a mixed use of residential and the keeping of horses, and the erection of single stable block with 3No. stables, a store and a tack room. **Reason: 6**

MA/13/1083/N - 42, UNION STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1ED - Retrospective application to retain existing conservatory. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1148/N - LITTLE ACRES, YELSTED ROAD, YELSTED, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT, ME9 7UT - Erection of single storey side extension. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1186/S - 3 AND 4, BOCKINGFORD MILL COTTAGES, BOCKINGFORD LANE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6DP - Retrospective application for the demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of replacement outbuilding. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1188/S - LAND ADJACENT TO SURRENDEN MEWS, HIGH STREET, STAPLEHURST, KENT - Erection of 4 detached dwellings (2x 5-bedroom, 1 x 4-bedroom and 1 x 3-bedroom) together with associated garaging and parking and an extension of an existing private access driveway to serve the new dwellings. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1190/S - UPTONS FARMHOUSE, LEES ROAD, LADDINGFORD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6DB - Demolition of an existing garage/shed and erection of a replacement garage/shed, plus erection of a double garage to the south of the existing house. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1191/S - UPTONS FARMHOUSE, LEES ROAD, LADDINGFORD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6DB - Listed Building Consent for demolition of an existing garage/shed and erection of a replacement garage/shed, plus erection of a double garage to the south of the existing house. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/1193/N - KINGSNORTH MANOR FARM, CRUMPS LANE, ULCOMBE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1EU - An application for listed building consent for the construction of a glazed link between house and oast to facilitate use as a single dwelling, internal alterations to house and oast, alterations to second floor, various repairs, repair and replacement of windows to house and oast and associated works. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/1208/S - THE WOOL HOUSE, HIGH BANKS, LOOSE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0EG - Listed building consent for refurbishment works including: new internal partions, new shower room, secondary glazing, insulation above second floor ceiling, mechanical extraction from bathroom and shower room and electrical rewire with additional outlets. **Reason: 2, 3**

MA/13/1213/S - BUCKLAND HILL CAR PARK, BUCKLAND HILL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 0YN - Redevelopment of existing car park site and adjoining vacant land to provide 64 one and two-bedroom flats and associated vehicular access, pedestrian footway, car and cycle parking, private open space provision, street and external lighting, mains services, bin stores and other ancillary development. **Reason: 6**

MA/13/1217/N - SPOT FARM COTTAGE, 93, SPOT LANE, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 8PF - Listed building consent for works involved in the conversion and extension of double garage to form a one bedroomed annex. **Reason: 3**

Reasons for advertisement key:

1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.

2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.

3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.

6 - Application is Major Development.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **11th August 2013**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 28th July 2013.

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Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/01962/HOUSE **Beale Farm Sand Lane, Frittenden**
- Rear conservatory. Re-working hall to improve entrance to house at ground floor and bedroom above (LB)

13/01964/LBC **Beale Farm Sand Lane, Frittenden**
- Listed Building Consent: Rear conservatory. Re-working hall to improve entrance to house at ground floor and bedroom above (LB)

13/01965/FULMJ **Tolehurst Farm Knoxbridge, Frittenden**
- Replacement of 7 existing poultry buildings with 2 new poultry buildings, together with associated landscaping and amendments to access (MAJOR)(LB)

13/01996/HOUSE **Little Bewl Bridge Farm Hastings Road, Goudhurst**
- Detached timber-framed 5-bay garage building and equipment store (LB)

13/01923/FUL **Woodsden Farm Barn Water Lane, Hawkhurst**
- Construction of stables and ancillary storage. Construction of 20M x 40M sand school for Ms A McArthur (PROW)

13/01942/HOUSE **Clayhill Rye Road, Hawkhurst**
- Single storey rear extension (LB)

13/01943/LBC **Clayhill Rye Road, Hawkhurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Single storey rear extension (LB)

13/01934/HOUSE **2 Rose Cottages High Street, Lamberhurst**
- Demolish rear single storey extension and replace with single storey rear extension with small shower room over (CA)

13/01868/FUL **Cowbeech Farm Back Road, Sandhurst**
- Amendedment of the design of the replacement dwelling and detached garage (granted approval under TW/12/02502/FUL) (LB)(CA)

13/01979/LBC **Bentham Farm Oast Victoria Road, Southborough Town Council**
- Listed Building Consent - Small roof light on north facing roof; High level side window on east elevation; Redesign existing window on north elevation with louvres (LB)

13/01999/HOUSE **Holden House Holden Road, Southborough Town Council**
- Detached garage block (LB)(CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman
Head of Planning Services,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 27 July 2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/AS/0202/2013 - Proposed development at High Halden C Of E Primary School, Church Hill, High Halden, Ashford, Kent, TN26 3JB

Kent County Council is applying to Kent County Council Planning Applications Group for planning permission to erect a powder coated steel canopy with polycarbonate glazed roof fixed to the main building structure. The proposed development is within the High Halden Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance, and also affects the setting of a Listed Building.

You may view this application via a computer link at the following locations: (a) Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford; and (b) Tenterden Gateway, 2 Manor Row, High Street, Tenterden.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

KCC/SE/0221/2013 - Proposed development at Lady Boswell's CEP School, Plymouth Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 3RW

Kent County Council Property & Infrastructure Support is applying to Kent County Council Planning Applications Group for planning permission for a proposed single storey extension comprising of one classroom, one library with associated facilities, outdoor soft and hard play/teaching area and car park extension. The proposed development does not accord with the provisions of the Development Plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated as it is located within the Metropolitan Green Belt.

You may view this application at Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough/District Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 28 July 2013

To place your notice here, call the Kent Public Notice team on 01303 817056

HIGHWAYS – in the city of CANTERBURY

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CANTERBURY)(TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES)(AMENDMENT NO 3) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act.

The effect of the Order is to amend the Kent County Council (Canterbury) (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012 by introducing new or varying existing parking and waiting restrictions on the following lengths of road in Canterbury:

NEW DOVER ROAD: Extend double yellow lines to the junction with Old Dover Road

BEACONSFIELD ROAD: Extend double yellow lines on the eastern side from No 68 to the boundary of Nos 66 and 64

CREINE MILL LANE SOUTH, DRYING SHED LANE, TANNERY WAY SOUTH: Extend prohibition of parking

Full details are contained in the draft order which, together with a statement of the council's reasons for proposing to make the order, a map showing the location and effect and a copy of any orders which will be amended by the proposed order, may be examined at the Canterbury City Council Offices in Military Road, Canterbury or William Street, Herne Bay during normal office hours.

If you wish to object to the proposed order you should write, stating the grounds for your objection, to the Transportation Manager, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW. Alternatively you may email your response to **transportation@canterbury.gov.uk** Your submission must be received by noon on Friday 23 August 2013.

If you have any questions concerning the proposed order or require further information please email the city council's Transportation and Environment Team or telephone **01227 862 544** Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm.

This Notice is published on behalf of
Kent County Council
Highways and Transportation
Enterprise and Environment
County Hall
Maidstone ME14 2XQ

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING APPLICATIONS
LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS
CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

DOV/12/00589 Section 73 application for the variation of Condition 2 (part E) of planning permission DO/84/1109, to vary the opening times on a Sunday, so that the condition reads 'between the hours of 09.00 am and 18.00 pm on weekdays and 10.30am and 16.00 pm on Sundays
Lydden Hill Race Circuit, Wootton, Canterbury, CT4 6RX **MAJ**

DOV/13/00503 Erection of roof extensions and conversion of garage to habitable room
Carmel, 66 Stonehall Road, Lydden, CT15 7JU **ARW**

DOV/13/00575 Erection of a single storey rear extension
Rose Cottage, 2 Wickham Bushes, Lydden, Dover, CT15 7JL **ARW**

DOV/13/00529 Erection of a rear dormer roof extension
West Barn, 2 Felderland Close, Worth, CT14 0PB **SLB**

DOV/13/00562 Erection of a detached granny annexe
Capeling House, Gore Road, Eastry, Sandwich **CON**

DOV//13/00552 Change of use and conversion to a mixed use comprising of a cinema (Use Class D2) with cafe/restaurant and snack bar (Use Class A3), installation of glazing to front, balcony doors and skylight, reinstatement of existing skylight and associated internal and external alterations
Regent Bingo & Social Club, Beach Street, Deal, CT14 7BP **CON**

DOV/13/00519 Change of use and conversion of outbuilding to holiday let and erection of pitched roof
31 High Street, Wingham, Canterbury, CT3 1AB **LCN**

Reason for Advert Codes:-

MAJ - Major Development **SLB** - To affect the setting of a Listed Building
ARW - Affects a Public Right of Way **CON** - Within Conservation Area
LCN - Listed Building in a Conservation Area

Some applications are not publicised in this list. All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent **within 21 days** marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website www.dover.gov.uk/planning or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich

Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

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HIGHWAYS – in the city of

CANTERBURY

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, CITY OF CANTERBURY) (PROHIBITION OF STOPPING ON FOOTWAY OR VERGE) (AMENDMENT NO 1a) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act.

The effect of the Order is to amend the Kent County Council (Various Roads, City of Canterbury) (Prohibition of Stopping on Footway or Verge) (Consolidation) Order 2013 by introducing new or varying existing parking and waiting restrictions on the following lengths of road:

1150	Whitstable Road	Pavement parking ban
1740	St Stephens Hill area	Pavement parking bans in St Stephen's Hill, Shaftesbury Road, Leycroft Close and Stephenson Road
4450	Canterbury Road	Pavement parking ban outside the shops between King's Road and Gosfield Road

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CANTERBURY) (TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO 2a) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order is to amend the Kent County Council (Canterbury) (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012 by introducing new or varying existing parking and waiting restrictions on the following lengths of road in Canterbury:

Tannery Development	Prohibition of parking in Old Watling Street, Tannery Way North, Back Lane, Creine Mill Lane North, Creine Mill Lane South and Drying Shed Lane
Knight Avenue	Double yellow lines and pavement parking ban
Bishops Way	Double yellow lines
Mandeville Road	Double yellow lines
Beaconsfield Road	Double yellow lines
St Stephens Hill	Double yellow lines
Manwood Avenue	Double and single yellow lines

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (HERNE BAY) (TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO 2a) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order is to amend the Kent County Council (Herne Bay) (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012 by introducing new or varying existing parking and waiting restrictions on the following lengths of road in Herne Bay:

Harvest Court	Double yellow lines to protect garage accesses
Pigeon Lane and Hillcroft Road	Double yellow lines
Highfields View	Double yellow lines
Beltinge Road	Double yellow lines
Canterbury Road	Double yellow lines
Beach Street	Move the disabled bays across the road and extend the taxi rank
Granville Drive	Double yellow lines

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (WHITSTABLE) (TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO 2a) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order is to amend the Kent County Council (Whitstable) (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012 by introducing new or varying existing parking and waiting restrictions on the following lengths of road in Whitstable:

Marine Parade	Overnight prohibition of motor caravans
Hamilton Road	Single yellow lines
Gladstone Road	Loading ban
Old Bridge Road	Single yellow lines
High Street and Oxford Street	Single yellow lines, loading ban and loading bays to apply seven days a week.
Tower Hill	Four hour time limit in parking bays

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CANTERBURY RURAL PARISHES) (TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO 2a) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order is to amend the Kent County Council (Canterbury Rural Parishes) (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012 by introducing new or varying existing parking and waiting restrictions on the following lengths of road in rural parishes in the Canterbury district:

Risdon Close, Sturry	Double yellow lines
Beech Avenue and Updown Way, Chartham	Double yellow lines
Old Church Way, Chartham	Double yellow lines

These orders were made on 25 July 2013 and come into force on 29 July 2013. Full details are contained in the Orders which, together with a statement of the council's reasons for making the Orders and a copy of the orders amended by the Orders may be examined at the Canterbury City Council offices, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Orders or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within six weeks from the date on which the Orders was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

This Notice is published on behalf of
Kent County Council
Highways and Transportation
Enterprise and Environment
County Hall
Maidstone
ME14 2XQ

Kent Highway Services

Folkestone

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y13/0550/SH - Smeeds Farm Broad Street Monks Horton Ashford Kent - Demolition of former threshing barn, replacement with new building providing office space associated with the site use and provision of associated parking.

Y13/0651/SH - Building adjoining Grace Chapel Grace Hill Folkestone Kent - Conservation area consent for demolition of derelict building.

Y13/0551/SH - Smeeds Farm Broad Street Monks Horton Ashford Kent - Listed building consent for the demolition of a former threshing barn

Y13/0552/SH+ - Tin Tabernacle Portland Road Hythe Kent CT21 6FL - Listed building consent for the construction of two ground floor offices within the exisitng building, together with the painting of the exterior.

Y13/0731/SH# - 79 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8AZ - Display of an internally illuminated ATM sign

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

\# - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

\+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 12 AUGUST 2013.

SW/13/0734:
Demolition of existing garage and erection of single storey side extension - 23 Preston Lane, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0808:
Alteration of existing shop to provide 3 two bed flats above existing shop and 1 two bedroom dwelling to the rear utilising rear internal courtyard and rear vehicular access - The Stationery Shoppe, 91 Preston Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0832:
Solar Farm comprising the erection of solar arrays, transformers and equipment housing, security fencing and ancillary equipment. Provisions of wildflower hay meadows, woodland planting, new boundary landscaping and retention of agricultural use on the land through livestock grazing - Land at Littles Manor Farm, Ashford Road, SHELDWICH; **REASONS 3 & 6**

SW/13/0835:
Two storey side extension to two storey existing office block with second floor addition - Floplast ltd, Unit E, Castle Road, Eurolink, SITTINGBOURNE; **REASON 3**

SW/13/0849:
Reversion of use of property to a dwelling house (Use Class C3) from bed and breakfast (Use Class C1) - Porch House, The Street, EASTLING; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0858:
Proposed redevelopment of the old coldstore site to provide 14 no dwellings - Old Coldstore Site, Adj Bridge Cottages, Selling Road, SELLING; **REASON 3**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

To place your notice here, call the Kent Public Notice team on 01303 817056

To advertise in this section 01303 817056

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW149 (PART) AT PLUCKLEY)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2013

The above named Order made on 12th July 2013 under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered AW149 which commences at NGR TQ 9218 4471 (point A on the Order plan) and runs south-south-west for 109 metres to its connection with Lambden Road at NGR TQ 9214 4461 (point B on the Order plan). (Between the points A-B on the Order plan). It will add a new length of public footpath numbered AW149 with a width of 2.0 metres, which commences at the aforementioned point A and runs south-east for 13 metres and then turns to run south-south-west for 100 metres to its connection with Lambden Road at NGR TQ 9215 4461 (point D on the Order plan), 6 metres south-east of the aforementioned point B. (Between the points A-C-D on the Order plan).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1AS or at the Kent County Council, PROW & Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there at the price of £5.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Mrs Maria McLauchlan at the Kent County Council (address as below). (Tel: 01622 696871) (email: maria.mclauchlan@kent.gov.uk) not later than 27th August 2013. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

VILLAGE GREENS - IN THE AREA OF CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMONS ACT 2006 - SECTION 15(1)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF LAND AS A VILLAGE GREEN

Application has been made to the Registration Authority, Kent County Council, by the Littlebourne Parish Council under section 15(1) of the Commons Act 2006 and in accordance with the Commons Registration (England) Regulations 2008. The application seeks the inclusion in the register of Town and Village Greens of the land described in the Schedule below which is claimed to have qualified for registration as a Town or Village Green by virtue of the use of the land for the purposes of lawful sports and pastimes 'as of right' and without challenge by the landowner for a period of over 20 years.

If the Registration Authority is satisfied that the land described below qualifies for registration as a Town or Village Green, it will so register the land.

The application, which includes a plan of the land proposed for registration, may be inspected at the offices of Kent County Council at the address below. Please contact the Commons Registration Team on 01622 221511 to make an appointment prior to visiting to ensure that a member of the team is available to assist you.

Any person wishing to make representations regarding the application should send a written statement of the facts upon which the representation is based to the Commons Registration Team at Kent County Council, either by post at the address below or by email to commons.villagegreens@kent.gov.uk, so as to arrive no later than Monday 9th September 2013. Please quote reference VGA655.

Representations must include the name and postal address of the person making them and the nature of their interest (if any) in the land affected by the application. They must also be signed by the person making them and state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that any representations that are to be taken into account by the Registration Authority in reaching a decision on the application cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain during the processing of the application. Copies of any objections or representations received will be forwarded to the applicant for comment and may be disclosed to other interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

Description of the land claimed to have qualified for registration as a Village Green

An area of open space of approximately 22.5 acres (9.1 hectares) in size, known locally as The List, and situated roughly between The Hill, Jubilee Road and Church Road in the village of Littlebourne.

Commons Registration Team
PROW and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XX

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF DOVER

NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF AN ORDER TEMPORARILY CLOSING PUBLIC FOOTPATH EE131
IN THE DISTRICT OF DOVER

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH EE131)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

The Secretary of State for Transport has directed that the Order made by Kent County Council on the 4th February 2013, the effect of which was to prohibit all pedestrians from Public Footpath EE131 has been extended for a further 12 months, until 4th August 2014.

The path is closed at the bridge at point NGR TR248 627.

There is an alternative route which is a detour of approximately 650m from the existing crossing point. The alternative route will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Denise Roffey

Contact Centre no. 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH SR371 (PART) WESTERHAM)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2013

The above named Order made on 9th July 2013 under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered SR371 which commences from NGR TQ 4332 5036 (Point A) and runs in a southerly direction for a distance of 83 metres to its connection with Dairy Lane at NGR TQ 4335 5028 (Point B) and will add a new length of public footpath numbered SR371 with a width of 2 metres, which commences from NGR TQ 4332 5036 (Point A), as indicated on the Order plan and runs in a south easterly direction for a distance of 87 metres to NGR TQ 4339 5030 (Point C), thence in a southerly direction for 40 metres to a new connection with Dairy Lane at NGR TQ 4338 5026 (Point D).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN13 1HG or at the Kent County Council, PROW & Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there at the price of £5.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Mrs Olivia Bonham at the Kent County Council (address as below). Tel: 01622 221169 email: olivia.bonham@kent.gov.uk not later than 27th August 2013. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF SWALE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZR432 (PART) AT THROWLEY)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2013

The above named Order made on 12th July 2013 under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered ZR432 which commences on Throwley Road at NGR TQ 9911 5415 (point A on the Order plan) and runs north-west for 180 metres to NGR TQ 9894 5421 (point B on the Order plan). (Between the points A-B on the Order plan). It will add a new length of public footpath numbered ZR432, with a width of 2.0 metres, which commences on Throwley Road at NGR TQ 9911 5415 (point C on the Order plan) and runs north-west for 175 metres, then turns to run south-west for 3.0 metres to the aforementioned point B. (Between the points C-B on the Order plan).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT or at the Kent County Council, PROW & Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there at the price of £5.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Mrs Maria McLauchlan at the Kent County Council (address as below). (Tel: 01622 696871) (email: maria.mclauchlan@kent.gov.uk) not later than 27th August 2013. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

Public Rights of Way and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX **Dated: 28th July 2013**

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Public Rights of Way and Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk



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HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS – ASHFORD AREA

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984 (ZEBRA CROSSING – STANHOPE ROAD, ASHFORD)

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council, as local traffic authority, and after consultation with the chief officer of police, propose to establish a crossing (Zebra) for pedestrians under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all their enabling powers, as follows:

STANHOPE ROAD,

40 metres south east of the junction with Farrow Court, Ashford.

DATED: 19th July 2013

Jamie Hare
Development Agreements Manager
Highways and Transportation

HIGHWAYS – CANTERBURY AREA

A257 CANTERBURY ROAD, BRAMLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of A257 Canterbury Road, Bramling, Canterbury, as follows.

A257 Canterbury Road will be closed between Littlebourne and Wingham, with no direct access between Canterbury and Sandwich.

The actual closure is from the junction with Bramling Road eastwards for approximately 150 metres.

The closure is planned to commence from Sunday 4 August 2013 at 16:00 hours through until 02:00 hours.

The alternative route is via A257 Canterbury Road, Littlebourne Road, St. Martin's Hill, Longport, Lower Chantry Lane, A2050 New Dover Road, Roman Road, A2 Dover Road, B2046 Adisham Road and A257 Canterbury Road.

Bramling Road and Wingham Well Lane will both be closed at their junctions with the A257, but with access remaining from the other end of each road.

DEANSWAY AVENUE, STURRY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Deansway Avenue, Sturry, as follows.

Deansway Avenue, Sturry will be closed at the junction with A291 Sturry Hill / Herne Bay Road.

The closure is planned to commence from 29 July 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via of A291 Herne Bay Road, Popes Lane and the other junction of Deansway Avenue.

The closure is in conjunction with temporary traffic lights on the A291.

KEMP ROAD & BURNAN ROAD, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on parts of Kemp Road and Burnan Road, Whitstable, as follows.

Kemp Road and Burnan Road, Whitstable will, in turn, be closed in the vicinity of their junctions with Herne Bay Road, as shown below.

Access will remain to the remainder of each road from Swalecliffe Road.

KEMP ROAD, WHITSTABLE will be closed from 29 July 2013 for up to 3 weeks

The alternative route for through traffic is via Herne Bay Road, Kemp Road and Swalecliffe Road.

BURNAN ROAD, WHITSTABLE will be closed from 19 August 2013 for up to 3 weeks

The alternative route for through traffic is via Herne Bay Road, Burnan Road and Swalecliffe Road

The date of the Burnan Road closure is approximate, subject to progress with Kemp Road, and may be brought forward by up to one week. The exact date will be notified to local residents and signposted on site.

ST. STEPHEN'S HILL, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of ducting and cabling works to provide a new electricity supply for the university, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on sections of St. Stephen's Hill, St Stephen's Road and Hales Drive, Canterbury, as follows.

St. Stephen's Hill (part of which is signposted St Stephen's Green) will be closed between the roundabout where it meets Beaconsfield Road and the junction with Stablegate Mews.

There will be no direct access between Canterbury and Tyler Hill using this route.

The closure is planned to commence from 29 July 2013 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Works will progress in a northerly direction, starting with a small section of B2248 St Stephen's Road between Stablegate Mews and Hales Drive.

The junction of Hales Drive will initially be closed at the junction with St Stephen's Road / Hill whilst works are carried out across the junction, and then re-opened once works have passed this point.

The alternative route is via St Stephen's Road, North Lane, St A290 Dunstan's Street, Forty Acres Road, Beaconsfield Road and St Stephen's Hill.

SYDENHAM STREET, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on Sydenham Street, Whitstable.

Sydenham Street, Whitstable will be closed for its entire length, planned to commence from 9 August 2013 for up to 1 day, between 07:00 hours and 17:00 hours.

The alternative route is via Stream Walk, Albert Street and St Peter's Street.

There is no alternative route for the cul-de-sac section of the road. Every effort will be made to maintain access when this is safe, but there will be time when this is not possible, so some delays are likely.

VARIOUS ROADS, CANTERBURY AREA (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER JULY 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on various roads throughout the Canterbury area, as follows.

The roads affected, dates and extent of closures, and alternative routes are as shown below.

LADYWOOD ROAD, STURRY closed for its entire length

29– 31 July

Diversion via Hawe Lane, Popes Lane, Hillbrow Avenue and River View

CHESTNUT AVENUE, CANTERBURY closed for its entire length

1–3 August

No diversion as the road is a *cul-de-sac*

WOODLANDS ROAD & WOODLANDS LANE, ADISHAM closed for their entire length

31 July – 2 August

Diversion via Poor Start Lane, Bramling Road, Adisham Downs Road, Pond Hill, The Street

YORK ROAD, CANTERBURY closed for its entire length

30 July–1 August

Diversion via A28 Wincheap, Victoria Road, St Mildred's Place, Martyrs' Field Road

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of York Road will be suspended to allow access when this is safe

COLDHARBOUR LANE, BEKESBOURNE closed between Highland Court Farm and Bramling Road

5 – 10 August (except Sunday)

Alternative route via Poor Start Lane, Bramling Road, Adisham Road, Chalkpit Road, School Lane, Station Road, Bifrons Hill, Town Hill, High Street, Bridge Hill

WATERY LANE, PETHAM closed for its entire length

5 – 9 August

Alternative route via Town Road, Jersey Road

DUCKPIT ROAD, PETHAM closed for its entire length

12– 14 August

Alternative route via Dean Hill, Thorn Lane, B2068 Stone Street, Chequers Hill, Church Lane, The Street

GORDON ROAD, CANTERBURY closed for its entire length

12 – 20 August (except weekend)

Alternative route via A28 Wincheap, Victoria Road, St Mildred's Place, Martyrs' Field Road

THE STREET, BISHOPSBOURNE closed for its entire length

15 – 16 August

Alternative route via Frog Lane, Bonny Bush Hill, Rose Lane

MERTON LANE NORTH, CANTERBURY closed for its entire length

19 – 22 August

No Alternative route as the road is a *cul-de-sac*

STODMARSH ROAD, STODMARSH closed between Hollybush Lane and Grove Road

19 – 23 August

Alternative route via Hollybush Lane, Wickham Court Lane, Grove Road

DERING ROAD, HERNE BAY closed for its entire length

23 – 28 August (except Sunday)

Alternative route via Kings Road, Station Road, Spenser Road

MARLEY LANE, HOATH closed for its entire length

2 & 3 September

Alternative route via Church Road, Mill Road, Old Tree Road, Hollow Road, Church Lane and Hollow Street

WADDEN HALL & GOGWAY, WALTHAM closed for its entire length

2 – 5 September

Closure: whole length

Alternative route via Duckpit Road, Dean Hill, Thorn Lane, B2068 Stone Street

CANTERBURY ROAD, HERNE–Service Road closed outside numbers 241 – 257 Canterbury Road

9 – 18 September (except Sunday)

No Alternative route

Due to the nature of the repairs being carried out, it will not normally be possible to re-open roads outside working hours, if closure dates span w weekend, roads will be opened at weekends when no work is being done.

For roads with no alternative routes, every effort will be made to maintain as much access as possible, when safe to do so.

WILDAGE & MADAM'S BOTTOM, STELLING MINNIS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow safe access to the overhead cable network to restore a customer phone service, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Wildage & Madam's Bottom, Stelling Minnis.

The road will be closed between Forest View Farm and Wildage Farm.

The closure is planned to commence from 14 August 2013 for up to 2 days, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours each day.

The alternative route is via South Lodge Road, Fishers Lane and Fir Tree Hill.

HIGHWAYS – DOVER AREA

COLD BLOW LEVEL CROSSING, COLDBLOW, WALMER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of level crossing maintenance, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cold Blow Level Crossing, as follows.

Coldblow, Walmer, Deal will be closed in the vicinity of the level crossing.

The closure is planned to commence from Saturday 3 August at 00:35 hours through until Sunday 4 August at 06:10 hours.

The alternative route is via Ripple Road, A258 Dover Road and Station Road.

HIGHWAYS – DARTFORD AREA

BROAD LANE WILMINGTON ACADEMY DARTFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a gas disconnection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Broad Lane (back of Wilmington Academy) Dartford, on or after 12th August 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed on Broad Lane at the back of Wilmington Academy)

There will be no access for through traffic at this point.

The alternative route is via Leyton Cross Roads right into Oakfield Lane and right into Common Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (HOME GARDENS, DARTFORD) (SHARED USE CYCLEWAY / FOOTWAY) NOTICE 2013

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under section 66 of the Highways Act 1980, intends to convert existing sections of footway to a shared use cycleway / footway; at the location described in the schedule below.

A plan showing the proposed new cycle path facility may be inspected during normal working hours Mondays to Fridays at Kent County Council, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD. It may also be viewed online at: www.kent.gov.uk/khsconsult under 'Current consultations'.

To comment on the proposals please contact Mr. Paul Thrower, Kent County Council, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD; or via email to traffic.schemes@kent.gov.uk by noon on Wednesday 7th August 2013.

SCHEDULE

Type of facility	Location
New unsegregated footway / cycleway	Home Gardens, Dartford; on its eastern side, between Station Approach and Overy Street.

OAKWOOD RISE (JUNCTION OF HARTLEY ROAD) LONGFIELD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a connection onto an existing main, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic one way on Oakwood Rise Longfield, (junction of Hartley Road) on or after 12th August 2013 for up to 12 days or until the works have been completed.

The restrictions will be as follows.

1. Exit only from Oakwood Rose onto Hartley Road
2. No Left or right turn from Hartley Road into Oakwood Rise.

The restrictions will be at the junction of Oakwood rise and Hartley Road.

VERNON ROAD SWANSCOMBE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of New electrical service supply, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Vernon Road Swanscombe, on or after 30th July 2013 between the hours of 08.00 and 14.00 for up 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed to the rear of the Morning Stat Public House.

There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via Vernon Road, Sun Road, Swanscombe Street and Church Road.

WHITEHILL ROAD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Whitehill Road, on or after 1st August 2013 for up to 1 day between the hours of 09.30 and 15.30 or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction of Cheyne Walk south for 320 meters.

The alternative route is via Foxendown Lane, Brimstone Hill, Preistwood Road, Heron Hill Lane, South Street (A227) and The Street.

HIGHWAYS – MAIDSTONE AREA

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984 (ZEBRA CROSSING – ARMSTRONG ROAD, MAIDSTONE)

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council, as local traffic authority, and after consultation with the chief officer of police, propose to establish a crossing (Zebra) for pedestrians under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all their enabling powers, as follows:

ARMSTRONG ROAD,

115 metres east of the junction with Enterprise Road, Maidstone.

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 0300 333 5539 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

HIGHWAYS

BOARLEY LANE, BOXLEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new drainage system, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Boarley Lane, Boxley, on or after 29 July 2013 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Tyland Lane to outside "Whitfield".

The alternative route is via Tyland Lane, A229 Blue Bell Hill, Sandling Lane.

BUSBRIDGE ROAD, LOOSE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of verge protection works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Busbridge Road, Loose, on or after 12 August 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Stockett Lane to Well Street.

The alternative route is via Well Street, Forstal Lane, New Cut, Stockett Lane.

HORSESHOES LANE, LANGLEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to joint a high voltage cable and install a new gas service, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Horseshoes Lane, Langley, on or after 12 August 2013 for up to 6 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from A274 Sutton Road to Heath Road.

The alternative route is via A274 Sutton Road, B2163 Leeds Road, Heath Road.

PAGEHURST ROAD, STAPLEHURST (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new telegraph pole and cabling, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pagehurst Road, Staplehurst, on or after 1 August 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Five Ash Lane to Park Road.

The alternative route is via Five Ash Lane, Five Oak Lane, Wilden Park Road, Marden Thorn.

SUMMERHILL ROAD, MARDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a new electrical supply, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Summerhill Road, Marden, on or after 29 July 2013 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from A229 Staplehurst Road to Little Branden.

The alternative route is via Summerhill Road, Battle Lane, Underlyn Lane, A229 Staplehurst Road.

HIGHWAYS – SEVENOAKS AREA

BITCHETT GREEN ROAD, SEAL, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of replacement of damaged verge markers, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bitchett Green Road, Seal, Sevenoaks, on or after 30 July 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed Pond Lane to Stone Street Road.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with .

The alternative route is via west along Stone Street Road, then South along Pond Lane.

BOWER LANE, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the provision of a new BT telegraph pole for new customer connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bower Lane, Shoreham on or after 16th August 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Romney Street and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is: via Bower Lane, Birchin Cross Road, Rowdow. Pilgrims Way East, A225 Shoreham Road, Station Road, A225 Bower Lane and vice versa.

BRADBOURNE ROAD, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a mobile crane to lift modular units into Sevenoaks Primary School, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bradbourne Road, Sevenoaks, on or after 8th August for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Bradbourne Park Road and Camden Road and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Bradbourne Park Road, Mount Harry Road, St Johns Hill and Bradbourne Road.

BRITTAINS LANE, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of excavating in the road for new electrical connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Brittains Lane, Sevenoaks, on or after 12th August 2013 for up to 7 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction of Julians Way and Cross Keys Close and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Brittains Lane, London Road A224, High Street, Oak Lane, Brittains Lane.

CLINTON LANE, HEVER, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway surfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Clinton Lane, Hever, Sevenoaks, on or after 29th July 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the railway bridge for 150m West. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: approaching from the east, the diversion route is west along B2027 Clinton Lane, then north along B2027 Bough Beech Road, then west along B2027 Four Elms Road, south along B2026 Station Road, B2026 Mont St Aignan Way and then east along Hever Road Edenbridge and Hever Road Hever Approaching from the west the diversion is the same but in reverse.

EGGPIE LANE, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of allowing BT safe access to replace a telegraph pole, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Eggpie Lane, Sevenoaks , on or after 2nd August 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Pond Cottage and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Eggpie Lane, Coppings Road, Scabharbour Road.

IDE HILL ROAD, CHIDDINGSTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of excavation and placing of 200mm steel oil pipeline and overlaying concrete protection slabs across Ide Hill Road and reinstating the surface of the HAUC standard, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ide Hill Road, Chiddingstone, on or after 15th August 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Winkhurst Farm and Hilders Farm and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Ide Hill Road, B2042 Green Lane, B2027 Clinton Lane and vice versa.

PENSHURST ROAD, PENSHURST, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of installation of high friction surface, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Penshurst Road, Penshurst, Sevenoaks, on or after 29th July 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside a property named Eden View. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: Penshurst Road, Rogues Hill, Penshurst Road, Haysden Lane, Ensfield Road, Penshurst Road, Moorden Lane and Penshurst Road and vice versa.

SCHOOL LANE, SEAL, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of new service to pole bracket, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on School Lane, Seal, Sevenoaks, on or after 12th August 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed opposite number 1 School Lane and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: A25 High Street, Seal Road, A225 Otford Road, Sevenoaks Road, Station Road, Pilgrims Way and Childsbridge Lane.

SPAREPENNY LANE, EYNSFORD, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sparepenny Lane, Eynsford, Sevenoaks, on or after 1st August 2013 for up to 7 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from High Street to Crockenhill Lane. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: approaching from the Southwest, the diversion route is south west along Sparepenny Lane, south east along Riverside, north east along A225 High Street, A225 Eynsford Road, then north west along High Street Farningham. Approaching from the north, the diversion is the same but in reverse.

SWAFFIELD ROAD, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Swaffield Road, Sevenoaks, on or after 13th August 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed each junction with Wickenden Road and there will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: from northern end east, follow the road round two bends to reach southern junction. The route when approaching from the southern part of Wickenden Road is the same but reversed.

HIGHWAYS – SHEPWAY AREA

A20 ASHFORD ROAD (STANFORD INTERSECTION), FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of A20 Ashford Road (Stanford Intersection), Folkestone, as follows.

A section of the southbound carriageway (towards Hythe and Sellindge) of the A20 Ashford Road will be closed to the south of the junction with A20 Ashford Road (towards Sandling and Saltwood) as far as the roundabout.

There will be no direct access *from* Junction 11 (Stanford Intersection) and Stone Street *to* Hythe, Newingreen and Sellindge.

Works are planned for the nights of Saturday 3 August and Monday 5 August 2013, between 20:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

The alternative route is via A20 Ashford Road, Sandling Road, Ashford Road, Beachborough Roundabout, Bargrove, Blackhouse Hill, Lower Blackhouse Hill, Station Road, A259 Prospect Road, Rampart Road, Dymchurch Road, Scanlons Bridge, A261 London Road, Hythe Road and A20 Ashford Road, Newingreen.

The Environmental 7.5T weight limit in respect of Bargrove / Blackhouse Hill will be suspended *southbound only* for the duration of these works, when the relevant signs are covered or removed.

Northbound & eastbound traffic from Hythe and Sellindge towards Junction 11 / Stone Street is unaffected.

LOWER WALL ROAD, BURMARSH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Lower Wall Road, Burmarsh, as follows.

Lower Wall Road will be closed between the junctions with Donkey Street and Tame Lane.

The closure is planned to commence from 29 July 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Donkey Street, Thorndike Road, Church Road and Tame Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (A259 LYDD ROAD, NEW ROMNEY) (50MPH SPEED LIMIT) REVOCATION ORDER 2013

The Kent County Council in exercise of their powers under Sections 81, 82, 83 & 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the proposed Order revokes the existing 50mph speed limit from Spitalfield Lane to the B2075 Romney Road, which will be replaced by a new 50mph speed limit covering a greater extent.

Full details are contained in the Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders affected by this Order and a statement of the council's reasons for making the Order, may be examined on Monday to Friday at Kent County Council, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or at Shepway District Council Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY

The Order was made on 26 July 2013 and will come into operation on 10 September 2013.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make an application to the High Court for this purpose

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY) (20MPH, 30MPH, 40MPH, 50MPH SPEED LIMITS AND DERESTRICTED ROADS) AMENDMENT NO.2 ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made an Order under section 81, 82, 83 and 84 of

the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to:

- A259 Dymchurch Road, Dymchurch – Extend the current 40mph speed limit from near Redoubt way to a point 64m south west of the junction with Botolphs Bridge Road.
- A250 Lydd Road, New Romney – Extend the 50mph speed limit to a point 390m west of the junction with Romney Road.

A copy of the Order, which comes into operation on 10/09/2013, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ or at the offices of the Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders.

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 0300 333 5539 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS – SWALE AREA

BORDEN LANE, SITTINGBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Borden Lane, Sittingbourne, as follows.

Borden Lane will be closed from the junction with A2 London Road to the vicinity of numbers 36-38.

The closure is planned to commence from 29 July 2013 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A2 London Road, Adelaide Drive and Borden Lane.

COLD HARBOUR LANE, BOBBING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow safe access to the overhead phone cable network for cabling works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Cold Harbour Lane, Bobbing, as follows.

Cold Harbour Lane will be closed between the junctions with Rook Lane and Parsonage Lane.

The closure is planned to commence from 30 July 2013 for up to 2 days between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours each day.

The alternative route is via Cold Harbour Lane, Bobbing Hill, A2 Key Street Roundabout, Sheppey Way and Parsonage Lane.

B2005 EUROLINK WAY, SITTINGBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow junction modification works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of B2005 Eurolink Way, Sittingbourne, as follows.

B2005 Eurolink Way, Sittingbourne will be closed at the junction with Castle Road, with no access between Eurolink Way and Swale Way.

The closure is planned to commence from Sunday 4 August 2013 for up to 1 day, between 08:00 hours and 16:00 hours.

If bad weather or other factors prevent works going ahead on this date, they will be deferred until the following Sunday 11 August 2013 at the same times.

The alternative route is via Eurolink Way, Crown Quay Lane, A2 St Michael's Road, (eastbound also via Dover Street and West Street), London Road, Key Street, Sheppey Way, A249 Iwade Bypass, B2005 Swale Way and Castle Road.

Please note that the dates differ from those initially publicised.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (EVEAS DRIVE, SITTINGBOURNE) (PROHIBITION OF ENTRY) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under

Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 124 and Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to prohibit vehicles from using Eveas Drive, Sittingbourne, between its junctions with Oak Road and Freeman Drive, with certain exemptions for local buses and restricted classes of other vehicles.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans and a Statement of Reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ, or at the offices of the Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD.

Any persons wishing to support or object to the proposal should write to Steve Darling, Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD or email tro@kent.gov.uk–quoting the name of the Order and stating their reasons, by no later than Monday 19 August 2013.

NEW ROAD, SHEERNESS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of major carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of New Road, Sheerness. New Road will be closed between the junctions with Queen's Way and Medway Road.

The closures are planned to commence from Monday 12 August 2013 for up to 3 nights or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Coats Avenue, Hawthorn Avenue, St George's Avenue and Medway Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, THE BOROUGH OF SWALE) (20MPH, 30MPH, 40MPH, 50MPH SPEED LIMITS AND DERESTRICTED ROADS) AMENDMENT NO.4 ORDER 2013

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council proposes to make an Order under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to reduce the speed limit in Grovehurst Road from 40mph to 30mph.

A copy of the proposed Order, an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ or at the offices of the Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD.

Any persons wishing to support the proposal, or to object to it should write to Steve Darling, Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial

Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or email tro@kent.gov.uk, quoting the name of the Order and stating their reasons, by no later than Monday 19 August 2013.

HIGWAYS – THANET AREA

MONKTON ROAD, MINSTER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of remedial works to carriageway block work to alleviate flooding outside the Heronsbrook development, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Monkton Road, Minster, as follows.

Monkton Road, Minster will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Prospect Road.

The closure is planned to commence from Monday 29 July 2013 at 07:00 hours through until Friday 9 August at 17:00 hours inclusive.

The alternative route is via Monkton Road, Monkton Street, Willetts Hill, A299 Canterbury Road West and Tothill Street.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984 (TOUCAN CROSSINGS –WESTWOOD, THANET)

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council, as local traffic authority, and after consultation with the chief officer of police, propose to establish a crossing (Toucan) under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all their enabling powers, as follows:

The Notification covers the following installations:

Notification of provision of 5 toucan crossing facilities in the following locations.

Haine Road, Broadstairs	Located 45m in a north easterly direction from the roundabout along Haine Road
New Link Road between Haine Road and Star Lane	Located 45m in a north westerly direction from the roundabout on Haine Road along New Link Road between Haine Road and Star Lane
Star Lane	Located 35m in an easterly direction from the new junction of Star Lane with the new Link Road.
Star Lane	Located 35m in a south westerly direction from the new roundabout of Star Lane and Nash Road.
Nash Road	Located 40m in a north westerly direction from Haine Road

VARIOUS ROADS, THANET (RESURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER AUGUST 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent

County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads in Thanet, as follows.

The roads affected, dates and times of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

B2052 HARTSDOWN ROAD, MARGATE closed at the junction with George V Avenue, with no access from George V Avenue into Hartsdown Road.

2 August 2013 – 19:00 hours to 00:00 hours (midnight)

The alternative routes for all through traffic are

Westbound via B2052 Hartsdown Road, Tivoli Road, Beatrice Road, College Road, A255 St Peter's Road, Ramsgate Road, A254 Queen's Avenue, Eaton Road, Belgrave Road, A28 Marine Terrace and Canterbury Road

Eastbound via A28 Canterbury Road, Marine Terrace, A254 Belgrave Road, Eaton Road, Grosvenor Gardens, High Street, A255 St Peters Road, B2052 College Road and Hartsdown Road

TOTHILL STREET, MINSTER closed between A299 Thanet Way and Monkton Road

Sunday 11 & Sunday 18 August 2013 – 09:00 hours to 17:00 hours

Alternative route via A299 Canterbury Road West, Willetts Hill and Monkton Road

SHALLOWS ROAD, BROADSTAIRS closed from the junction with Dane Court Road to St Peter's Footpath.

28 & 29 August 2013 – 09:30 hours to 15:30 hours

There is no alternative route as the road is a No Through Road; access will be maintained when safe to do so, but with times this is not possible due to the nature of the works.

HIGHWAYS – TONBRIDGE & MALLING AREA

BELL LANE, BURHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a sewer connection, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bell Lane, Burham, on or after 29 July 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside 25 & 27.

The alternative route is via Court Road, Rochester Road.

COURT LANE, HADLOW (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway haunching and ditching, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Court Lane, Hadlow, on or after 12 August 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Bells Farm to The High House.

The alternative route is via Hatches Lane, Addlestead Road, Tonbridge Road, Three Elm Lane, Victoria Road.

MILL STREET, SNODLAND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of re-railing the level crossing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Mill Street, Snodland, on or after 15 August 2013 for up to 1 night between 22.45hrs and 05.45hrs or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the level crossing.

PADDLESWORTH ROAD, SNODLAND (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of maintenance to the drainage system, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Paddlesworth Road, Snodland, on or after 29 July 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Birling Road, Snodland Road, Stangate Road.

SCHOOL LANE, PLAXTOL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to relay a new cable, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on School Lane, Plaxtol, on or after 12 August 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Old School Cottage to Chapel House.

The alternative route is via The Street, Long Mill Lane, Dunk's Green Road, Hamptons Road, School Lane.

WEST STREET, WEST MALLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to clear blockages on a BT duct, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on West Street, West Malling, on or after 12 August 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from High Street to outside number 16.

The alternative route is via Offham Road, Teston Road, St Leonards Street, High Street.

HIGHWAYS – TUNBRIDGE WELLS AREA

TUNNEL ROAD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a new sewer connection, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Tunnel Road, on or after 1 August 2013 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Hill Street to outside Tunbridge Wells Glass Works.

The alternative route is via Hill Street, Goods Station Road, Belgrave Road.

VARIOUS ROADS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING & SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of highway improvement works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to restrict traffic on various roads, as shown below.

SCHEDULE

CRESCENT ROAD/CALVERLEY ROAD/LANSDOWNE ROAD – closed at their intersections (Carrs Corner roundabout)

4/11/18 August 2013

Alternative route for Crescent Road is via Mount Pleasant Road, Monson Road, Camden Road, Garden Road, for Calverley Road is via Prospect Road, Grove Hill Road, Mount Pleasant Road, for Lansdowne Road is via Garden Road, Camden Road, Monson Road, Mount Pleasant Road

CALVERLEY PARK GARDENS – closed at the junction with Calverley Road

4th–18th August 2013

Alternative route is via Pembury Road, Calverley Road

LANSDOWNE ROAD – Prohibition of southbound traffic

4th–18th August 2013

Alternative route is via Garden Road, Camden Road, Calverley Road

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ **Dated 28th July 2013**

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 0300 333 5539 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

To advertise in this section 01303 817056

FOOTBALL

Picture: ADY KERRY



FOCUSED: Linganzi is raring to go for the opener

Linganzi open to change in midfield role

ATTACKING or defending - it makes no odds to new Gillingham man Amine Linganzi when it comes to fitting into Martin Allen's diamond midfield system.

The 23-year-old has played in both the anchor role and the more advanced position for Gillingham in pre-season after signing on a free transfer from Accrington Stanley.

At 6ft 2in and with an athletic build, he will no doubt prove an asset at both ends of the pitch this term, and the Congolese international does not mind where he is asked to play.

In the Gills latest friendly, the 3-0 loss to Premier League Crystal Palace, he played in the holding role. Linganzi said: "If the manager wants me to play there I will do it. But I know I'm capable to go forward too. The manager wants me to use my strength and power for the team; if it's defensive or more forward I will do it."

Allen is pleased with the progress the former Blackburn Rovers man is making. He said: "He's growing into it and getting used to a new set of players. He's a good player. You can see he's played at Championship level, he's going to be good for us."

Linganzi feels he is settling in well at the club following the intense training regime in Le Touquet in France earlier this month.

"We did three training sessions a day in France," he said. "The most important thing is now we are fit.

"We have had some hard friendly games, but you keep going forward with your head high. Unfortunately we lost the games, but we need to focus on the first game of the season because we will need to be 100 per cent fit. I believe we will have a good season. I have no doubt."

The Gills play their final pre-season fixture at Conference South side Maidenhead United on Tuesday. It could see a return for injured winger Myles Weston.

"I won't risk him now until Tuesday," said Allen. "We will see how he is on Monday with a view to a half hour at Maidenhead.

"We want him fit because he wins games for us. It's not a pull, tear or strain, it's just tight. It's 50/50. Because he's so quick it has to be right."

One player who looks set to leave before the start of the season is transfer-listed striker Adam Birchall who has been in talks with Conference Premier side Dartford about a loan move. The 28-year-old spent time at Princes Park last season as he recovered from a serious knee injury which kept him out for all of the 2011/12 campaign.

SUPERBIKES

Byrne back on track after crash to win at Brands Hatch

SHANE 'Shakey' Byrne recovered from a crash on his home track to clinch his eighth victory of the season last weekend.

The Sittingbourne rider (pictured right) crashed out midway through the first race when jostling for the lead at Brands Hatch.

But he dusted himself down and rode to victory in the second outing on the Grand Prix circuit last weekend.

The defending British Superbike champion said: "The guys gave me a really tough day, so tough I fell down in race one.

"But I enjoyed the battle. I made a mess of the bike and the team did a fantastic job to get it all back together for race two. I wanted to win that one for them."

The season continues with three races at Oulton Park over the weekend of August 9-11.

Byrne, 36, has been dominant this season and currently leads the standings with 232 points, 21 ahead of second-placed Alex Lowes.

Picture: ANDY KELLY



CRICKET

Adams keen to salvage Kent's season with a positive attitude

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

KENT coach Jimmy Adams insists the county still have plenty to play for this season despite disappointing results in the County Championship and the T20.

Kent picked up their first win in six T20 matches at Hampshire last Sunday, ending the host's 17-match unbeaten run in the competition they won last season, before a nine-run win over Sussex in the same competition on Wednesday night.

The week before, they claimed their first victory in the championship against Gloucestershire at Cheltenham with Brendan Nash hitting a superb 199 before retiring with sunstroke after a gruelling five hours at the crease in hot sunshine.

But those positives have come too late to salvage anything of note in the two competitions.

There is, though, still a chance of a quarter-final slot in the 40-over Yorkshire Bank 40 (YB40) which resumes on August 11.

Adams is treating every game left in that competition like it is their last, and remains positive about what the players can achieve on a personal level in the T20 and four-day game.

"It has been a challenge by way of results, but you keep going one game at a time," he said. "It's important we keep the lads as motivated as possible and get wins across the board.

"I think the lads are still upbeat. There is still a lot to play for in terms of getting results. There is an outside chance we can qualify for the YB40 quarters. The approach to the four-day is the same; we still have plenty to play for.

Picture: ADY KERRY



UPBEAT: Adams insists morale is high at Kent

"I don't think anybody wanted us to be in the bottom half of the table, and that includes us. But the key thing is to make sure you have a plan going forward and try to get as much out of the season as you can, collectively and individually.

"There is definitely a lot at stake. We are not going into four-day cricket with anything other than a positive attitude."

He insists the door is not closed on selection for the first team in any format of the game as he has shown in recent weeks with the likes of Fabian Cowdrey, son of former Kent and England captain Chris, opening the batting alongside fellow youngster Daniel Bell-Drummond.

"We gave some of the lads who have played up until now a break which was needed," he said. "We have had some really good performances in second team cricket and we thought it was good to see what they could do in the first team.

"The guys who are batting are clicking quite well. Those who are there deserve to be there. We still have games left and a lot of cricket to be played, I'm not ruling anybody out of contention."

Kent will now be without South African bowler Vernon Philander who jetted off to the Caribbean this weekend following his final game on Friday night against Surrey at the Kia Oval.

The 28-year-old will be playing for the Jamaica Tallawahs in the Caribbean Premier League T20 which starts on Thursday. Prior to Friday's finale, he played in seven T20 matches taking seven wickets, with his best figures on debut against Middlesex when he took 4 for 8.

■ **Kent are back in action at The Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence in Canterbury under the floodlights on Monday with Hampshire the visitors for the T20 clash.**

FOOTBALL

Gills will be ready for new campaign, promises Allen

Gillingham start their new season next weekend; **Greg Miles** looks at some of the talking points and gets the latest from boss Martin Allen

GILLINGHAM boss Martin Allen admits he cannot wait for the new campaign to start as he aims to build on last season's achievements.

The three months of waiting will be over for Gills fans next Saturday when they open their League One campaign at home to Colchester United.

But there will be no one more excited at Priestfield than Allen when the clock strikes 3pm as the Gills look to build on their title-winning antics which saw them gain promotion.

Following the clash against Colchester, managed by former Gills defender Joe Dunne, there is another home encounter on Tuesday night in the Capital One Cup to Bristol City, followed by the mouthwatering trip to relegated Wolves where Allen's men can expect to be backed by a large travelling army of Gills fans.

"Who knows what League One is going to bring? All I know is that we'll be ready and I know our supporters will be ready," he said. "We'll train as hard as we can, we'll work tactically, technically, as best we can. Mentally they will be ready, don't worry about that.

"Three games in a week we've got coming up, Colchester, Bristol City and then Wolves away – we will be ready for the action when it comes. I can do no more than that."

He was reminded of what he had missed during the off-season on Tuesday night when the atmosphere lifted during the Gills' 3-0 home defeat to Premier League Crystal Palace.

"I didn't really want the season to end I wanted it to carry on," he said. "We have brought some new players in. I believe we are stronger than we were last year. I can't wait. This place will be absolutely rocking next Saturday.

"The atmosphere reminded me what happened at the end of last season and it was a lovely feeling. That's what we aim to do, please the people. It's exciting. I can't wait for it all to start."

The door is still very much open for a place in Allen's starting XI though. He added: "I don't think I've got a final line-up, I believe in all of them, all of our players in our squad can play. They all look after each other."

Pictures: ADY KERRY



EXCITED: Martin Allen is looking forward to the visit of Colchester United on Saturday.

On the up: Wolves firm favourites for promotion

WOLVES are unsurprisingly the favourites to bounce straight back into the Championship this season after their almighty fall from the Premier League.

Sheffield United, Brentford, Bristol City and Peterborough United can all expect to be joining them in the hunt for an automatic spot.

The Gills are priced at 10/1 for promotion from Skybet which could be worth a punt.

Realistically though, there is a lot of competition for places in the top six with the likes of Coventry City, MK Dons and Tranmere Rovers all worthy of consideration for a play-off place at the very least.

For the drop: Colchester and Oldham's time is up

GILLINGHAM'S opening day opponents Colchester United could struggle this season.

They scraped to safety last campaign finishing just outside the drop zone and are favourites for the drop this time around.

Joining them could be Oldham Athletic who have also lived dangerously in recent times, and this season have an inexperienced manager in Lee Johnson in charge.

As for the other two spots Stevenage (2/1), Carlisle United (9/4) and Shrewsbury Town (15/8) are among the bookies' favourites, and although the Gills are priced at 4/1 they are better equipped than their rivals to cope.

THE SEASON AHEAD

Rock solid defence



GILLINGHAM'S defensive prowess and ability to grind out points proved vital last season.

Those traits will need to be at the fore once again if they are to survive in League One, with the back five looking likely to pick itself.

If Adam Barrett and co can stick together it will give the Gills every chance to nick a result with the odd goal. Fans may crave attacking open football, but why change a winning formula after a title-winning season?

A summer bargain?



AMINE Linganzi was almost a forgotten man when he pitched up at Accrington Stanley last season to kick-start his career.

Still only 23, he proved why Blackburn Rovers took a chance on him from Saint-Etienne as a teenager with some commanding displays in the middle of the pitch, notably at Priestfield for Stanley in March.

As a free transfer he surely has to be one of the bargains of the summer.

Forward thinking



GILLINGHAM have a variety of attacking options to call on this season.

Danny Kedwell and Bayo Akinfenwa both fit the bill for the role of experienced target man, while Cody McDonald, Antonio German and Myles Weston are options for the striker role.

The question is who should partner who? Our answer is to go with the tried and tested. Akinfenwa and McDonald were a force together at Priestfield in the 2010/11 campaign and can be again.

SPORTS SHORTS

ICE HOCKEY

Great Britain junior becomes latest catch for the Dynamos

INVICTA Dynamos have signed teenage hot-shot Elliot Knell from Telford Tigers.

The 19-year-old Sheffield-born forward rose through the ranks at his home-town club in Yorkshire where he finished as the highest point scorer in the under-16s in the 2009/10 season.

In the same season as hitting 36 goals and 24 assists he scored a further 29 points for the under-18s in the same campaign.

The following season he got his breakthrough making eight appearances for the Sheffield Steeldogs in the EPL and was also called up for Great Britain's juniors at the World Championships.

He then moved on to the Telford Tigers last season where he played 37 times and managed seven points.

Invicta Dynamos coach Kevin Parrish said: "He has a huge amount of promise and is an exciting young talent."

SPEEDWAY

Returning Mason gives Kings a boost in Eurolink Cup win

KENT Kings won their second match of the season as David Mason returned to action in their Eurolink Cup encounter against Scunthorpe Saints.

Former captain Mason returned to riding for the first time since May after being sacked by the club, but was back on the scoresheet in place of injured Sam Woods at Central Park on Monday where the Kings recorded a 45-33 win.

Mason dropped just one point while Steve Boxall picked up nine, while Benji Compton and reserve Adam Kirby made decent contributions, in addition to points from Connor Coles, and Ben Morley..

Kings team manager John Sampford said: "It was a good morale boost for the lads, now we have it all to do on Monday against a much improved Buxton side who won at Mildenhall last Sunday, with their danger man Charles Wright topping the averages."

ATHLETICS

Asher-Smith claims double gold in Euro championships

TEENAGE sprinter Dina Asher-Smith claimed two gold medals at the European Junior Championships in Italy.

The 17-year-old Blackheath and Bromley star ran the second leg in the 4x100m team who broke the Great Britain national record in the semi-final and broke it again in the final in a time of 43.81 seconds. She also stormed to victory in the 200m in 23.29 seconds.

There was heartbreak for Invicta East Kent AC star Rebecca Weston, though, who came fourth in her 5,000m final, missing out on a medal by just over a second.

The 18-year-old from Canterbury led from the start until the final kilometre when she was overtaken by eventual winner Jip Vastenburg, who beat her by six seconds.

Club team mate, 17-year-old Alex Clay from Wingham finished eighth in 16.41 minutes.

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